

Rapid reaction force to help Kurds

Bush ready to bomb Saddam's nuclear arsenal

By SUSAN ELLICOTT in WASHINGTON and RICHARD FORD

PRESIDENT Bush is putting the finishing touches to coalition plans to eliminate Saddam Hussein's nuclear arsenal, amid increasing signs that Iraq emerged from the Gulf war with its nuclear facilities intact.

The Pentagon is also expected to announce today the setting up of an international rapid reaction force in southeast Turkey, which will be ready to fire if Iraqi troops try to harass the Kurdish minority in northern Iraq.

Mr Bush has hinted strongly that he is ready to use renewed military force if the Iraqi leader refuses to comply with United Nations ceasefire resolutions requiring the destruction of all Baghdad's weapons of mass destruction.

ready to eliminate the Iraqi nuclear capability by "whatever means it takes".

He said the two men had agreed that Saddam had been "lying and cheating" about Iraq's nuclear capability after the Gulf war. The source added that the government was waiting to see what assistance the UN inspection team in Iraq was given in its efforts to discover exactly how much nuclear material remained.

"We hope the UN team will succeed in its effort to discover Iraq's nuclear capability," he said.

The president has, during the past week, conducted a mounting campaign of rhetoric against the Iraqi leader and American officials have accused Baghdad of concealing its nuclear capability in a report to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Saddam's survival in power has become a growing obstacle to Mr Bush's efforts to promote stability in the Middle East after the six-week campaign to liberate Kuwait. The White House has again urged the Iraqi military to overthrow Saddam, and Mr Bush described him this week as a tyrant and a liar with "bloody hands".

The Iraqi government responded with similar language yesterday, according to the Iraqi News Agency. Hamad Youssef Humadi, the Iraqi information minister, branded Mr Bush a "malicious, wicked liar". Tariq Aziz, the deputy prime minister, said: "When Bush deals with international issues, he speaks quietly and uses ordinary political language. However, when he moves to issues related to Iraq, he becomes nervous, uses vulgar language and departs from logic."

The UN said yesterday that some of the inspection team had decided to stay in Iraq for another week to carry out further checks on nuclear sites. Nine members of the team will leave Baghdad today to report to the atomic energy agency in Vienna.

Saddam has promised to grant the inspectors access to any sites. However, US intelligence has reported that Iraqi troops were seen last week burying components of an electro-magnetic nuclear fuel separator used to enrich uranium.

In a separate attempt to

bring the Iraqi leader to heel, the allies have, for some weeks, been discussing the deployment of a "residual force" to protect the Kurds. Diplomats in Washington said yesterday that the force would be mainly American, but it would also include British troops and about 1,300 others from France, Italy and possibly The Netherlands and Spain. As the host country, Turkey would also have a contingent.

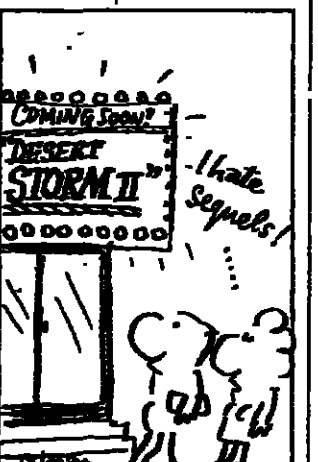
Officials said they had fixed no date for the deployment, but the soldiers would begin to move soon. "These will be real soldiers," said one diplomat, "not support units".

Defence ministry sources in London said yesterday that the British contribution to the 5,000-man allied brigade would be a company of 250-300 men from 40 Commando, Royal Marines. The company, from Taunton, in Somerset, will act in an infantry role, although they might be called on to use their mountain warfare skills. They will be equipped with an array of weapons, including the latest SA80 rifles.

The Royal Marines are part of 3 Commando Brigade, which was sent to northern Iraq in April as part of the multinational team to help Kurdish refugees and to set up safe havens. The commandos played a key role in bringing down half a million Kurds from the mountains on the Iraq-Turkey border, where they had fled.

British sources said the new force would be set up quickly so that the 3,300 allied troops still in northern Iraq could be withdrawn rapidly.

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No help for councils hit by BCCI collapse

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE prime minister yesterday ruled out the use of taxpayers money to help local authorities hit by the closure of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

His decision, announced to the Commons, leaves the 29 councils affected by the bank's closure with little alternative but to add the cost of their £100 million losses to next year's poll tax bills.

The only hope of averting rises of up to £20 a head in the community charge is a plan by local authority associations to take legal action against bro-

kers who arranged to place council monies with BCCI. John Major told the Commons: "I don't believe it would be right to give preferential treatment to local authorities over other depositors in BCCI. Any accountant or finance director should know that if an institution pays over the market rate of interest, it is in the form of a risk premium."

Affected council leaders will meet in London on Tuesday to consider suing brokers.

Regulator's verdict, page 21

Met Office's hot prediction: designer forecasts

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

ON THE day when most of the nation sweated, forecasters offered a service to suit the more usual mixed bag of weather: personalised predictions.

The Meteorological Office is preparing more and better services to the public and industry, including hourly rain forecasts for individual towns which can be received by fax machine or telephone.

The forecasters are also considering installing screens in the foyers of company offices to display conditions overhead and likely developments within minutes and hours.

"People will be able to decide whether to go to lunch now or wait, depending on the likelihood of rain," said Bernard Herdman, director of commercial services at the Meteo-

rological Office in Bracknell, Berkshire.

News of the designer services came as temperatures in the southeast and parts of the Pennines and east Midlands soared into the high 70s F, melting some roads in Kent. Cromer, on the Norfolk coast, was heading for the day's heat record with 87.

The weather today is expected to return the more seasonal temperatures in the southeast of around the low 70s with some rain in the north and northwest.

But it was a complete absence of sun which caused thousands of tourists to stare skywards and chant in Hawaii, and the superstitious to don red underwear and stay indoors in Mexico, when the moon delivered the most spectacular eclipse this century across a swath of the Eastern Pacific. In Hawaii, where eclipse mania has

been reigning for months, some 400 astronomers peered down telescopes at the four-minute corona of the darkened sun, their view somewhat marred by the airborne ash blown from Mount Pinotubo in the Philippines.

In northern Mexico, where eclipses have always been taken as an ominous portent, the mood was more sombre. Fruit trees were adorned with red paint and ribbons to deflect "eclipse rays" and women of childbearing age put on red underwear and metal trinkets to ward off misfortune. "Astrologers tell us that this colour absorbs the eclipse rays," said Manuel Gonzalez, a farmer in the Baja California region, at the centre of the eclipse path.

In a calmer atmosphere in Britain, the Met Office went on spelling out details of its new services. Another one

Major rules out cash boost for Gorbachev

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major made clear yesterday that there will be no significant sums of cash on the table for President Gorbachev at next week's London summit of the Group of Seven industrialised nations.

The Soviet leader will be offered know-how and practical co-operation and a framework to follow up his first meeting with the G7 leaders, which the prime minister called "the beginning of a new process of co-operation and dialogue". But Mr Major said that he and other summit leaders would be seeking assurances that the Soviet Union will not merely pass laws on economic reforms but put them into action.

Mr Gorbachev will face tough questioning on the Soviet Union's continued high level of arms spending, and on the implementation of arms agreements already entered into. At a Downing Street press conference yesterday, Mr Major spoke of the dangers of a world trade war if the Uruguay round of the General Agreement on Tariffs

and Trade talks was allowed to fail. Saying that he regarded it as one of the most important subjects on the international scene, the prime minister called for a specific commitment from his fellow heads of state and government at the G7 summit "to make sure there is a sufficient degree of political clout to ensure success in the Uruguay round". If it failed, he said, people would be tempted into protectionism, erecting artificial trade barriers and sparking a trade war.

Setting out his objectives as host to the leaders of the United States, Germany, France, Japan, Italy and Canada, Mr Major said that the theme would be "building world partnership and strengthening international order". He expected the summit sessions to include discussions on Yugoslavia, the Middle East peace process, Iraq and South Africa. Indicating the British attitude to sanctions, he talked of "the need to ensure the economic recovery which will be needed for the political reforms to succeed in the medium and long term" in South Africa.

Mr Major, who will be urging on the G7 gathering his plan for a United Nations register of arms supplies, said: "We cannot allow a country like Iraq ever again to build up a huge arsenal of military weapons unchecked and in some cases unknown." He is calling for a UN-maintained, "transparent" arms register which will enable the nations of the security council, which include most of the arms suppliers, to monitor arms build-ups in potential world trouble spots. He added: "Our



Gorbachev: to face tough questioning at G7 summit

Interest cut opening

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

GERMANY's decision not to raise interest rates has paved the way for a cut in base rates in Britain. A cut would coincide with inflation figures out today which are expected to show the annual rate slowing to 5.7 per cent in June.

The Bundesbank had been expected to raise interest rates to counter inflationary pressures. Instead, it left policy unchanged, providing Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, with an opportunity to reduce interest rates for the sixth time this year, again by a half point.

With no sign of an imminent recovery from recession, political and market pressure has built for cheaper credit to kick-start the economy.

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With no sign of an imminent recovery from recession, political and market pressure has built for cheaper credit to kick-start the economy.

Business, page 21

261 killed in pilgrim air crash

By MICHAEL THEODOULOU, IN NICOSIA

ALL 261 people on a chartered Canadian DC-8 carrying Muslim pilgrims back to Nigeria were killed when it crashed in flames at Jeddah airport, ending yet another Haj disasterously just as Saudi Arabian officials were describing it as the most successful in years.

The state-run Saudi Press Agency said that there were 247 Nigerian pilgrims on board and 14 crew. The plane's Canadian owners, Nationalair, confirmed that the DC-8 was carrying 14 Canadian crew.

The pilot reported a fire on board seven minutes after take-off and was returning to make an emergency landing when the plane crashed four minutes later. He radioed the control tower to say he "had lost command of his plane and that there was a fire on board and he wanted to return to the airport". The agency said, quoting a statement by the Saudi civil aviation department, the plane came down half-a-mile short of the run-

Continued on page 20, col 4

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TODAY IN THE TIMES

STREET CRED

Janet Street-Porter, no mean ruffler of BBC feathers, tells Kate Muir how she keeps her ear (which is six feet up) to the ground Page 12

BUT NOT FOR HIM

Mike Gaffney's ban from the England team stays in place in spite of South Africa's return to the world fold. Alan Lee agrees Page 36

BIG DEALER

Picasso was destined to be big, but did the dealer Ambroise Vollard make him bigger? John Russell Taylor on an unusual man of art Page 13

BUMPY RIDE

InterCity 225 trains are having their suspension modified after passengers complained of "bouncing" Page 20

ABIDING GRACE

The Three Graces may soon be on show in a British museum if the company which owns Canova's statue will sell to the Barclay brothers Page 5

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The Institute of Chartered Accountants' PE 1 May 1991 results will be published tomorrow. Copies will be on sale this evening at Charing Cross, King's Cross and Victoria stations, Marble Arch and Leicester Square.

Treasurers blame Bank of England for £100m losses

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

COUNCIL treasurers who invested millions of pounds in the failed Bank of Credit and Commerce International yesterday defended their action and blamed the Bank of England for losses of £100 million.

Martin Johnson, chief accountant at Stockport borough council, Manchester, which stands to lose £1.15 million, adding £5 to the poll tax, said

that BCCI had been listed by the Bank of England as an approved deposit-taker.

The environment department, which sent a list to town halls on June 21 naming BCCI as an approved bank, has said the list was purely for information. Mr Johnson said, however: "Under the law we are only allowed to place money with banks on that list."

The law prevents us investing money elsewhere. If the Bank of England knew the extent of the trouble this bank was in, why the hell did not they take it off the list before now?"

He criticised City commentators who said that it had been common knowledge that BCCI was in trouble. "It may be that the governor of the Bank of England mentioned it over lunch to other bankers but no one told us," Mr Johnson said. "We relied on this list as evidence of the security of these banks. It is obvious now that there is no guarantee the Bank of England is even regulating the banks whose names appear on the list."

Philip Grayling, borough treasurer at Wigan, which faces losses of £2.1 million, predicted that local authorities would withdraw from deals in the secondary banking market as a result of the crash. He said he had given BCCI notice at 9am on Friday that Wigan was withdrawing its investment but the Bank of England stepped in to close BCCI before the council could complete the withdrawal.

"After the failure of Chancery Bank earlier this year we had already decided to withdraw from the secondary banking market," Mr Grayling said. "I believe there will now be a flight from the second-tier banks."

Others were less charitable about the activities of the council treasurers. One banker specialising in work with local authorities said it would have been easy to have seen the writing on the wall.

"If one of the councils to which we are bankers had phoned for advice we would have told them that we had severed our connections with BCCI nine months ago. BCCI was offering rates of interest an eighth to a quarter of a per cent higher than anyone else. Anyone with a bit of market savvy would realise that must carry an increased risk."

"Treasurers tend to be obsessed with an extra fraction of a per cent. What they forget is that it would take 400 years at a quarter of one per cent to recoup a £1 million loss."

A local authority treasurer said treasurers should have questioned the validity of the list. Apart from BCCI it included the names of Chancery and another bank which were in financial trouble earlier this year and were in the hands of receivers at the time the list was issued.

BCCI closure, page 1
A failure to cope, page 21

Islanders tot up the moral balance sheet

By KERRY GILL

THE Western Isles council, which last night confirmed it had £23 million invested with the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, faces financial disaster after the government said it was not considering any cash aid.

The Outer Hebridean islands' 32,000 population could have its poll tax bills increased from £77 to more than £110.

The loss, by far the biggest faced by any local authority in Britain, is likely to hit council services and capital spending projects. Shocked islanders are considering the implications for every household and craft from the Butt of Lewis to Barra.

Many of them, who hold strong Christian views and observe the Sabbath strictly, felt that the council was morally wrong to have dealt with a bank with such a bad reputation. Time magazine described BCCI as a "notorious cash conduit for drug smugglers, arms dealers and rapacious tyrants".

As a meeting of the council's policy committee began, Murdo Aftin, its chairman, said: "People are stunned by the amount." Further details are unlikely to emerge before Tuesday at an emergency meeting of the council.

One question which its financial leaders will be asked is why so much was invested after other councils, such as Strathclyde region, dropped dealings with BCCI when it was disclosed that it was involved in laundering drug money last year and had operating losses.

George Macleod, the council's chief executive, cut short his holiday in France to travel back to Stornoway. Asked for his reaction as he drove off the

ferry, he said: "It is one of shock and dismay. But I cannot comment further until I have the facts from my director of finance."

Mrs Mary Bremner, chairwoman of the council's social work committee, said: "I must be honest. I didn't know our council had this money invested in this bank. Nor did many of my colleagues."

A measure of the concern on the islands was the decision by the *Stornoway Gazette* to rush out a second edition of the weekly newspaper, a rare action reserved for major disasters.

Its acting editor, Donald MacInnes, said: "The feeling in the islands is that this loss is horrific. The first reaction was that if people were expected to pay an enormously high poll tax as a result, then it wasn't on, because they weren't going to bail out officials who were misguided in what they did. Secondly, how on earth did the £23 million go into the one bank?"

Allen Stewart, the Scottish local government minister, said that the government was not considering compensation for the four Scottish councils which could lose a total of more than £27 million. He said councils were responsible for their own dealings.

Asked whether the loss to the Western Isles was a financial disaster, he said: "We will just have to wait and see what happens. It did come as a very major shock. It is not a matter for the Scottish Office."

The office is expected to meet representatives of the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, although the government reiterated its position that it was a matter for the councils and the banking authorities.



Class comfort: Malcolm Kemp and his wife, Naomi, yesterday at King's College hospital, south London, where Mr Kemp described how he was shot in the thigh by an escaped IRA suspect (Stewart Tessler writes). The Kemps were going on holiday and were on their way to

Hatfield airport on Sunday when two men who had just escaped from Brixton prison flagged them down. Mr Kemp, aged 31, said: "We saw two men who were jumping out into the road. They tried to stop another car and then they were waving down ours. We didn't intend to stop, but we

had to slow down to avoid running them over. My first thought was to accelerate away." One of the men then produced a gun. "One of the guys was near my door and I said, 'We can't stop', and he shot me. I thought it was then a good idea to give up and get out of the car. My

bottle went," said Mr Kemp. Mrs Kemp, aged 31, the daughter of Lord Brain, said she did not know if they had wanted to take her hostage but she did not believe they wanted to kill her. The escaped men, Pearce McAnley and Neman Quishin, have not been caught.

Sexually explicit scenes censured

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

TWO sexually explicit programmes in Channel 4's recent *Banned* series were censored yesterday by the Broadcasting Standards Council.

The adjudications against *Sex and the Censors* and *WR: Mysteries of the Organism* came the day after the Director of Public Prosecutions decided not to prosecute Channel 4 for obscenity because of insufficient evidence. Scotland Yard's obscene publications squad had put the case to the DPP in April.

The council, chaired by Lord Kinnear, ruled that a masturbation scene in *WR: Mysteries of the Organism*, although partially masked by electronic means, went beyond acceptable limits. Eight people complained about the programme, a 1973 film by the Yugoslav director Dusan Makavejev, broadcast with a warning at 10pm. Channel 4 described the film as "a work of serious intent, a black political-sexual comedy to explore the work of the sexologist Wilhelm Reich, and repression in the Eastern bloc".

The council held that some scenes in *Sex and the Censors*, a documentary that showed simulations of sexual mutilation and gang rape, were "wholly unacceptable". Twenty-three viewers complained about the programme, transmitted with a warning at 9pm, which, the council said,

was too early. Channel 4 argued that by showing briefly some clips of "reality", the programme would, for most viewers, strengthen the case for censorship. The Independent Television Commission, which had not been asked to preview the programme, said that the 9pm scheduling was a grave error of judgment, and questioned whether it should have been broadcast at all.

The lower court of the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg has ruled that the BBC, Independent Television Publications and Ireland's RTE were breaking EC law in refusing to allow other publications to print weekly TV listings (Tom Walker writes).

The ruling means that the EC commission can now confidently call upon companies to release "intellectual property" to competitors. So, not only will newspapers be able to continue publishing weekly television lists, but industries such as computers could now be opened up to smaller competitors now frustrated because big rivals have withheld information.

Sir Leon Brittan, the EC competition commissioner, said: "Companies cannot unreasonably sit on their intellectual property in order to stifle enterprise."

There may be an appeal.

London zoo loses two more chiefs

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

TWO more members of the governing council of the Zoological Society of London, Lord McAlpine of West Green and Lord Clinton-Davis, yesterday followed the example of the treasurer, Lord Peyton, and resigned.

All the resignations came in the wake of the government's refusal to help London Zoo out of its financial distress.

Their departure indicated a split in the 21-member governing council over how seriously the plight of the zoo should be presented, with the three peers feeling that the picture painted of possible rescue for the zoo by funding from the private sector was too optimistic.

Lord McAlpine, the former treasurer of the Conservative party, who is abroad, said in a short statement that he had resigned "for the same reasons" as Lord Peyton, the former Tory cabinet minister, with whom he has been closely allied in the search for more resources for the zoo from the government.

Lord Peyton said that all three peers shared the view that the zoo's statements about its future, issued after the governing council's meeting on Tuesday, should have reflected more "grim realism" and were more optimistic than warranted.

Lord Peyton told *The Times*

"We should make clear the seriousness and gravity of the situation and not deceive ourselves or anyone else into thinking that there are all sorts of prospects of rescue for the zoo. I don't myself believe that anyone will do anything without the government first stepping in."

He believed that the zoo should simply have announced that it would close in September 1992 unless the government offered help.

Lord Clinton-Davis, the former Labour minister, said: "The tactics of trying to live on in the hope that something might turn up are fundamentally flawed. I am not prepared to go along with that."

It was learnt yesterday that a fourth peer, Lord Armstrong, the former cabinet secretary, had also tendered his resignation from the governing council.

A spokeswoman for the zoo said, however, that that had nothing to do with the present situation. "Lord Armstrong offered his resignation in May to take effect in September," she said.

She added that the zoo was "very sorry" to lose its council members, but that its work would continue. Suggestions that the council was disintegrating were completely without foundation, she said.

Prudential sales staff plan action

SALES staff at the Prudential, Britain's largest insurer, are to take industrial action after the breakdown of talks at the conciliation service Acas, their union said yesterday.

Some 13,000 members of the National Union of Insurance Workers at the company will take unspecified action aimed at "maximising disruption to the Prudential". It is the first decision to take action for 20 years.

The union alleges that the company has breached conditions attached to a restructuring plan.

Army helicopter

THE army is expected to buy an American attack helicopter off the shelf, with the Gulf-proven Apache one of the favourites. Alan Clark, defence procurement minister, announced in a Commons written answer yesterday that the government would be seeking proposals next spring for providing the army with a new attack helicopter.

Nets protest

A youth in a small boat punctured a Greenpeace dingy and a boom as members of the environmental group tried to pull the boom across the mouth of Newlyn harbour, Cornwall, yesterday. Greenpeace is trying to stop three trawlers leaving port to fish with monofilament drift nets which Greenpeace claims cause the deaths of dolphins and porpoises.

Retrial for police

Two police officers accused of perjury over incidents outside the News International plant at Wapping, east London, in 1987 are to face a retrial, the Crown Prosecution Service said. A Central Criminal Court jury failed to reach verdicts on Wednesday in the cases of Inspector Derek Watts and Sergeant Colin Langstone. They were remanded on bail until the retrial, set for October 28.

Pay offer made

University vice-chancellors made an offer yesterday to lecturers to try to break the deadlock in salary negotiations. The lecturers, who have had a 5 per cent rise on account, would receive another 1.4 per cent in September, with another 1 per cent available for discretionary payments in January. The Association of University Teachers wants 15 per cent.

By the way, The Times overseas editions: Australia \$25, Canada \$25, Europe £15, India \$25, Japan ¥2,000, New Zealand \$25, North America \$25, South America \$25, Singapore \$25, South Africa \$25, Switzerland Sfr 25, Taiwan \$25, USA \$25.

Teacher alleges race bias

A MATHEMATICS teacher was ordered to apologise after correcting a parent who argued that three times tonight was three, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

Ratna Alexander, a teacher at Hatcham Wood secondary school, Lewisham, south-east London, cited the example as one of a number of cases of racial discrimination that she said had led to her suspension from the school in October.

She told the tribunal, at Ebury Bridge, that the parent had asked her why she had marked the sum as wrong. He had admitted his mistake after her explanation, but she was told to apologise by Pat Culter, acting headmistress of the school.

Mrs Alexander, aged 53, of Forrest Hill, south London, says that she was discriminated against by Lewisham education authority after she tried to improve standards at the school, where she had taught for 13 years.

Oxford architecture studies a return to the classics

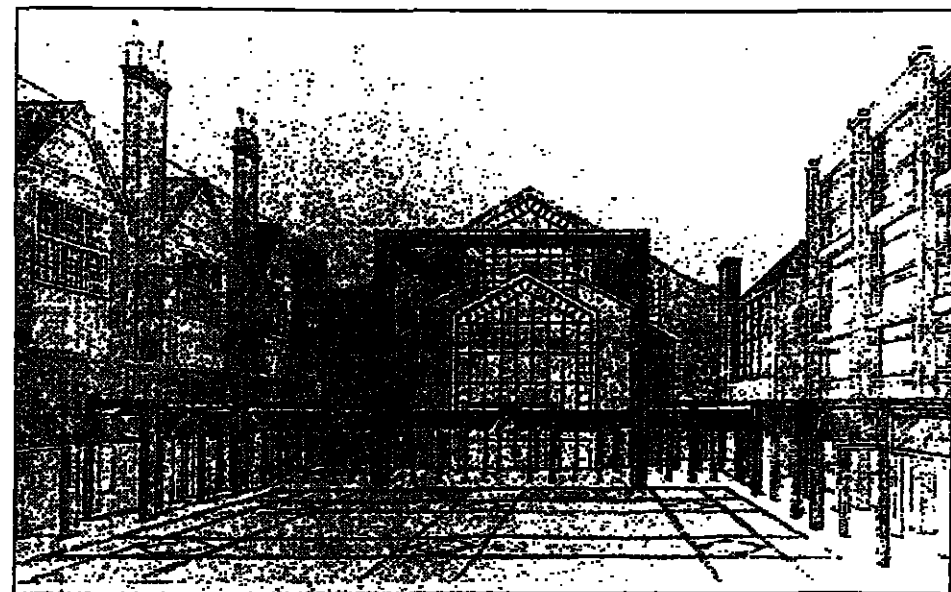
By MARCUS BINNEY, ARCHITECTURE CORRESPONDENT

STYLE wars are breaking out with a vengeance among the dreaming spires of Oxford, where modernists have held unchallenged sway over the university architectural scene for years.

The *casus belli* is the imminent arrival of the new Master at St Peter's College, Professor John Barron, who has taught at the Prince of Wales's architecture school.

The thought that an expert on classical architecture, a director of the Institute for Classical Studies at London university no less, should be about to assume a key position in university patronage has had the architectural press desperately combing the quads in search of students who might have sighted the prince himself on a clandestine visit to view new plans for the college.

This week, *Building Design* carries a front-page report suggesting that an Italian architect, Paolo



Degree of traditionalism: Portoghesi's design for a quad from disparate elements

Portoghesi, was awarded the commission for the college's new international property law centre in a last-minute switch.

Portoghesi describes his dream as "classicism in a

new key". Professor Barron calls it "attractive, post-modern Palladian, which takes the college in a completely new direction".

Portoghesi's powerful massing and silhouette is in

contrast to the flat-roofed shoebox containing the college's recently completed hall of residence. He sees his challenge as that of forming a characteristic Oxford quad out of disparate elements.

Opposite the hall of residence is a pleasant gabled range of a 1900 girls' school, recently acquired by the college. In the centre, the new building forms a clever play on the pediment-within-a-pediment theme of Palladio's Venetian churches, at once echoing the Victorian gables and the glass front offices, linked by a simple colonnade.

Of the eight architects invited to submit schemes, the final choice lay between two - Portoghesi's and an elegant minimalist modern design in the form of a cylinder by Kenneth Armstrong, who has just won the competition for a Japanese cultural centre in Paris, next to the Eiffel Tower.

The scrutiny committee was evenly divided between them, but the governing body of college fellows voted strongly in favour of Portoghesi.

Other architects who participated include Tschalk Chassay, David Chipperfield, Michael Manser, Frank

Woods (architect of the hall of residence) and John Winter.

The main purpose of the proposed building is to house the college's library on patent law. On the ground floor will be a gallery for its art collection, and, at the top, room for junior research fellows.

John Barron dismisses any suggestion that the Prince of Wales has been directly involved. The commission none the less represents an important victory for the prince's principles.

Echoing recent sentiments of Robert Venturi on the National Gallery, Portoghesi cannot see why his project should come under immediate attack in the architectural press even before it has been published.

"We have entered competitions this year in France, Germany and Japan," he said. "Each project is tailored to its particular context, and, in the other countries, the architectural press happily accept it."

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Sip sip hooray!
2-5 PM (SUBJECT TO LOCAL VARIATION)

Liverpool MP jailed for refusing to pay the poll tax

By RONALD FAUX

TERRY Fields, the Labour MP for Liverpool Broadgreen, was sentenced to 60 days in prison yesterday for failing to pay a £427 poll tax demand.

The court's decision comes a week before the start of action that could lead to Mr Fields being dropped by Labour as a candidate at the next election. A high-level Labour committee is expected to hear claims that the Militant-supporting MP has brought the party into disrepute, a charge that could eventually prevent him being endorsed for the next election.

Mr Fields arrived for yesterday's hearing before South Sefton magistrates amid an

anti-poll tax demonstration, with cars hooting their horns and people shouting support for him.

He said: "I would love to say 'yes, I am paying my poll tax', but 15 million people are in a campaign with me who are told that the poll tax is over yet people are still receiving bills. I am inundated by Broadgreen constituency party, whose policy is to oppose the poll tax."

Mr Fields, of Bootle, appeared on the court list with his wife, Maureen, who is also accused of not paying the charge. South Sefton council sought an order sending them to prison for wilfully refusing

or culpably neglecting to pay the charge.

Mr Fields declined to make any statement in court and refused to give information about his means. James Caton, chairman of the bench, told him: "We gave you every opportunity to speak on your own behalf and we feel you have refused every opportunity to pay the poll tax. You have been given numerous chances. You are guilty of wilful refusal and you leave us no alternative than to sentence you to 60 days. Either pay that money or serve the imprisonment."

Mr Fields flushed and appeared shocked when he heard the decision. He was applauded by about 20 supporters in the public gallery as two policemen escorted him to the cells.

John Farrell, community charge manager for Sefton, had told the court that he had served the summons for the hearing on February 13 at Mr Fields's address, where there was a notice in the window saying: Pay No Poll Tax. He said that Mr Fields, along with everyone pursued for non-payment, had been given every opportunity to contact the authority to arrange payment.

Even at that late stage it was open for him to discuss arrangements for payment. The council had been advised that an attachment of earnings order could only be applied to a member of parliament if the MP concerned authorised it. Mr Farrell said: "Mr Fields has made it clear in the past that he did not seem to wish to pay the community charge. The opportunity was given to him but he did not contact the authority to discuss it."

A charging order was not made against the MP because he lived in a council house and bailiffs had been unable to obtain from him goods of a value to cover the debt. When the magistrates announced their decision there were angry shouts from the public gallery, which was cleared by police. As Mr Fields was taken from the court he had with him photographs of his family and a copy of Peter Taffel's book, *Liverpool - A City that Dared to Fight*.

The case against Mrs Fields was adjourned until September.

On Monday, Labour's organisation committee will consider a report on the activities of Militant during the Liverpool Walton by-election campaign and will start a fresh wave of expulsions. The failure of Mr Fields to campaign actively for Peter Kilroy, the official candidate, already figures high in the report drawn up by Joyce Gould, Labour's director of organisation.



Can pay, won't pay: Terry Fields being greeted by supporters as he arrived at the court in Liverpool yesterday

Officers unaware of asylum ruling

By QUENTIN COWDRI
HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

AN ASYLUM seeker who disappeared in Zaire after being deported from Britain had been returned there because immigration officers had not realised that a judge had ruled the man should stay in Britain pending a further review of his case, a court was told yesterday.

John Laws, Treasury counsel, said immigration officers had not appreciated on the evening of May 1 that earlier that day a court undertaking had been made that the deportation order should be frozen.

Referring to the undertaking made before Mr Justice Garland, he said: "With great respect to Mr Justice Garland, it may very well be that words such as 'and I am not quoting' - we will do our best to take him off the plane' have been recorded by the judge as an undertaking and not understood that way by the person who said it."

The High Court has been told that after the undertaking immigration officers made some attempts to stop the deportation but had abandoned their efforts after learning that the Zairean had already boarded the plane at Heathrow airport.

The Zairean, who is not being named for his own protection, was last seen in Zaire on June 14. He had fled to Britain after allegedly being beaten and imprisoned for opposing the dictatorship of President Mobutu.

Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, and Peter Lloyd, the Home Office minister responsible for immigration, are being accused of committing a serious contempt of court for failing to ensure that the deportation order was frozen. On Wednesday, the High Court dismissed contempt proceedings against three civil servants involved in the case.

Mr Laws accepted that Mr Justice Garland was clear a formal undertaking had been made, saying it would be "unseemly" for the Home Office to assert otherwise. However, no one within the department had understood that such a pledge had been given and government lawyers had no instructions to give such a promise.

The court has been told that immigration officers abandoned attempts to stop the deportation at 6.15pm on May 1 - 15 minutes before the plane's listed take-off. The plane left at 6.47pm.

Mr Justice Brown, presiding over yesterday's hearing, said there could be an element of public concern over the case. It was "curious" that the department could not get the asylum seeker off the plane, which flew to Zaire via Paris.

Advisers 'cheated investors of £4m'

By RAY CLANCY

FOUR young business directors swindled at least £4 million from clients and used it to fund a lavish lifestyle, a court was told yesterday. One of them was only 18 when the fraud began.

Christopher Wright, aged 29, of Brentford, west London, James Krekis, 33, of Wootton under Edge, Gloucestershire, Andrew Woodhouse, 39, of Grantham, Lincolnshire, and Gordon Davies, 32, of Romford, Essex, admitted conspiracy to steal.

The Central Criminal Court was told that they set up as Garston Amburst Associates, investment advisers, in 1980 and quickly began "cheating" investors. They dealt with life assurance, pensions and unit trusts, but rarely made any profit. Much of the money from clients was used to finance a lavish lifestyle that included luxurious entertaining, worldwide conventions, including a trip to Hawaii, and expensive cars.

"Anybody was fair game," Richard Sutton, for the prosecution, said. Three hundred investors had lost at least £4 million, but because documents were missing the true figure might never be known. Only months after the launch of the company, Wright, then 18, began milking accounts, Mr Sutton said. He told his fellow directors who agreed to continue the practice. The fraud "snowballed" and was simple to carry out so long as more clients were persuaded to invest their savings and keep accounts "topped up".

The case continues today.

Millions suffer work-related stress

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

MILLIONS of Britons are suffering from work-related stress as a result of the competitive Eighties and the recession-hit Nineties, according to a leading psychologist. They are working harder and longer and are more prone to stress-related illnesses, Cary Cooper, head of the department of organisational psychology at the University of Manchester's Institute of Science and Technology, said. Company mergers and acquisitions and department reshuffles have pushed employees nearer the brink of burnout, he said.

Professor Cooper has been commissioned by the Health and Safety Executive to study the benefits of stress counselling to see if it works and is cost effective. A study of Post Office employees in the North showed a 66 per cent reduction in absence after the counselling session. The exercise showed that for every 175 employees counselled £1,000 was saved. However, staff assistance programmes are still in their infancy.

Professor Cooper says the drive over the past decade for a more efficient and competitive workforce has taken its toll on employees. This had been exacerbated by the recession, giving workers the added worry of job insecurity. "When I studied during the 1970s a lot of people had job security and it was like being in the Church of England,"

Professor Cooper said. "Now organisations are getting rid of middle managers in a 'decrement' exercise to remove a layer of bureaucracy."

His comments follow a study carried out in the United States in January on a random sample of 600 full-time American workers. The study, published this week, showed that 72 per cent of

employees said they suffered from three or more stress-related symptoms.

Professor Cooper said the situation was probably worse in this country than in America as it had gone through greater periods of change. The Thatcher era has been marked by both technological and economic change and the country was also facing substantial

social changes. The incidence of work-related stress had increased markedly in the past 20 years and more people were taking sick leave due to anxiety, backache, headaches and insomnia.

"Those on the shop floor work till they drop while senior managers take a few days off every now and then, saying they have 'flu'," he said.

Add number of points indicated for each of these working conditions which produce stress.

- Three points each:
Company has been taken over recently.
Staff reductions/pay-offs in last year.
Department/company had major reorganization.
Staff expect company to be sold or relocated.
Employee benefits significantly cut recently.
Mandatory overtime frequently required.
Employees have little control over how they do their work.
Consequences of making a mistake at work are severe.
Work loads very greatly.
Most work is machine paced or fast paced.
Staff must react quickly and accurately to change.
Personal conflicts are commonplace.
- Two points each:
Few available opportunities for advancement.
Bad tape hinders getting things done.
Inadequate staffing, money or technology.
Pay is below the going rate.
Sick and vacation benefits below the norm.
Employees are rotated between shifts.
New machines/work methods have been introduced.
Noise/vibration levels are high or temperature keeps changing.
Employees normally isolated from one another.
Performance of work units normally below average.
- One point each:
Few or no windows or natural lighting.
Employees have little or no privacy.
Meal breaks are unpredictable.
Work is either sedentary or physically exhausting.

Now subtract total points for stress reducers from total points for stress producers. The result may range from minus 50 points for excellent working conditions to 60 points for extremely high stress. Source: New York Times

Add number of points for these stress reducing conditions.

- Three points each:
Management takes firm action to reduce stress.
Mental health benefits are provided.
Company has formal employee communications programme.
Staff given information on coping with stress.
Staff given clear job descriptions.
Management and staff talk openly with each other.
Employees are free to talk with one another.
Company provides exercise/stress-reduction classes.
Staff recognized and rewarded for their contributions.
- Two points each:
Work rules are published and the same for everyone.
Child care programmes are available.
Employees can work flexible hours.
Perks are granted fairly.
Employees have access to necessary technology.
Staff and management trained in resolving conflicts.
Staff receive training when assigned new tasks.
Company encourages work and personal support groups.
Staff have place and time for relaxation.
- One point each:
Staff assistance programme is available.
Each employee's work space is not crowded.
Staff can put up personal items in their work areas.
Management appreciates humour in the workplace.
Programmes for care of the elderly are available.

SATURDAY REVIEW

ENCORE IN LA



LA's sleekest had begun to sneak, amid whispers, towards the doors, worried about missing tables in restaurants they had had to book a month before. Then a voice: 'They're all crazy. Don't they know the show ain't over until the fat guy sings Nessun Dorma?'

Brian James talks to Pavarotti about singing for something and nothing

MOOD INDIGO



Marco Polo inspired the shipment of indigo from India to England and now (via Levi Strauss), indigo is very much the colour of fashion. Liz Smith reports

BIRT'S LAW



John Birt is known as 'the outsider' in the BBC, but the viewers want to know how radical the next director-general really is

The Times on Saturday: order your copy today

600 pupils screened against TB

ALL 600 pupils at a secondary school in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, are being screened against tuberculosis after a staff member developed an active form of the disease (Thomson Prentice writes).

Parents of the children attending Marshland high school were told yesterday that the chances of the infection spreading were extremely low. The staff member, who has not been named, is being kept off work.

Pupils not immunised against TB are being asked to give a small skin test and will also be offered vaccination. Staff at the school will have chest X-rays.

Smugglers' tales dog veteran car sale

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND, ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

AS A 1903 Mercedes two-seater sporting tourist broke the record for veteran cars at Brooks auctioneers in London, there were claims that the other star of the auction - a vehicle shaped like a swan - had been smuggled out of India in a car rack.

Indian newspapers are reporting that three people, including a Belgian antique dealer, have been arrested in Bombay for allegedly smuggling four vehicles out of the country, including the swan car.

Conceived by an eccentric Scots engineer, Scotty Mathewson, and with a "beak" designed to spray boiling water on irksome pedestrians, the 1912 car more than justified its vendors' expectations, soaring above its £100,000 estimate to £187,000.

As the vehicle entered

Britain with correct paperwork, Robert Brooks, the auctioneer, has no fears of claims by the Indian authorities. "It cleared UK customs in the correct way," he said.

Unfortunately for the smugglers, however, it was the paperwork on the Indian side which created the problem. According to reports, faked

papers claimed that the vehicles, which included 1912 and 1940 Rolls-Royces, were dated from 1961 to 1965 and were made locally.

The 1903 Mercedes, called the Sixty, is capable of around 83 mph and established its makers as an international race winner. It was sold to an anonymous British buyer for

£1.56 million, boosting the confidence of a market which has recently been in the doldrums.

Another car which goes up for sale later in the year, for an expected £2 million, and which is due to lead a parade of historic vehicles around Silverstone before the British Grand Prix on Sunday, suffered a slight dent yesterday - but only in its reputation (Kevin Eason writes).

The auctioneers Coys of Kensington put on show the Tipo B Monoposto, known as the P3, and billed it as the winner of the first British Grand Prix. But it emerged that the Alfa was winner of the third in the historic pre-war series, when Dick Shuttleworth notched up an average speed of 63.97 mph in 1935. Douglas Jamieson of Coys said: "That was a mistake on our part. We did not research that ourselves."



Golden oldie: the 1903 Mercedes sold for £1.56m

Bird world's punk rocker shuns big-city life

By CRAIG SETON

THE starling, one of Britain's most common birds, appears to be in rapid decline. The bird is dwindling in numbers in towns and country and an annual survey in Birmingham and two decades ago found a city centre population of 30,000 has this year found only 64.

The mystery of Birmingham's missing starlings has worried members of the West Midlands Bird Club, whose survey, begun in the 1960s, has produced the lowest figure ever for the number of starlings roosting on once-crowded ledges and parapets. The total is a big reduction on last year's figure of 2,000 birds.

Club members have been speculating about the decline demonstrated by the survey, which was conducted

in February when the number of native starlings would usually be swelled by winter visitors from the Continent. They believe that modern buildings may not provide suitable roosts for the bird, and that anti-starling measures on older buildings might have also helped to drive them out.

They also fear that modern farming techniques are depriving starlings of food in the country during the breeding season, and have even considered the possibility that nuclear fall-out from the Chernobyl disaster could have hit the migration of starlings from eastern Europe.

The decline in the population of the noisy, raucous, squabbling bird has been confirmed by the British Trust for Ornithology. The trust says that more efficient farming means

that crane fly grubs, on which fledglings are raised, are in much shorter supply.

The trust's estimate of Britain's starling population shows that it has fallen by half in ten years in woodland locations and by at least a quarter on farmland. Fifteen years ago the population was thought to be between four and seven million pairs, but that is now believed to be down to between three and five million and still falling.

Starlings leave the countryside after the summer to find winter roosts in towns and cities, where it is warmer and more food is available. Alan Richards, chairman of the West Midlands Bird Club, said yesterday: "They're regarded as the punk rockers of the bird world and people think they are unattractive, but the sight of

dozens of them wheeling across the city at sunset is dramatic. If we do not know the cause for the decline, we worry whether there is some insidious cause. If our next survey reveals there are no starlings to be found in Birmingham, we would be concerned."

Chris Mead, who is in charge of the national bird-ringing scheme for the British Trust for Ornithology, said that although the evidence showed a big decline in the number of starlings in Britain, the Birmingham city centre birds had probably moved to another location.

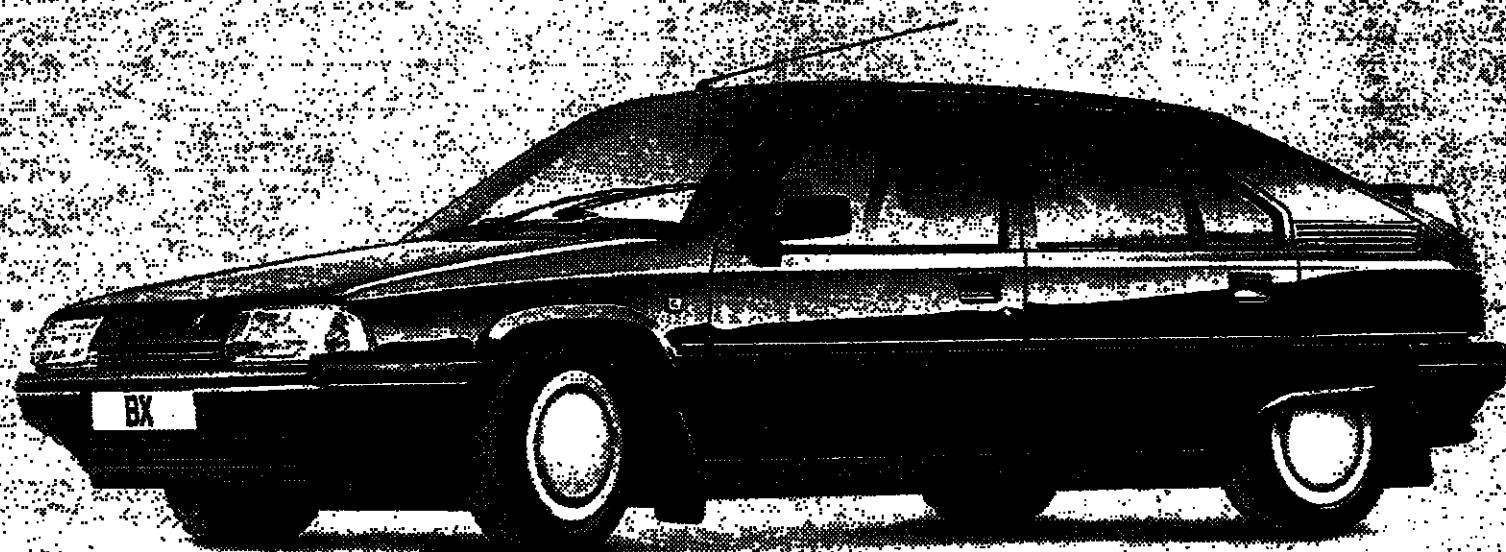
"There are still flocks of starlings on buildings in London and other towns," he said. "It's still one of our commonest birds, so we're not talking about extinction. They're very adaptable."

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الاصالة

How legal oversight made couple's home contested territory

TREVOR and Marius Reed could have been forgiven for thinking that it was part of a practical joke by the television programme *Beedle's About*, but a knock on their door one winter afternoon in 1988 was to bring few laughs.

The Reeds had become victims of a solicitor's error, leading to years of litigation and anxiety as they strove to prove that they alone were the rightful owners and occupants of their Canvey Island home and to seek compensation for the error.

"There were two men at the door, a tough-looking chap, and they asked me what I was doing in their house," Mrs Reed, aged 31, said, recalling the day she and her husband found that their conveyancing solicitor at Walter G & S Beecroft had failed to notice there were two charges on the house.

"They said it was their house, or at least half of it was. I thought they were con men."

Within days, it became clear that the men, brothers released from prison, were claiming an interest in Clowd Cottage, which the Reeds had bought for £27,500 five years earlier. The Reeds claim that it was at this stage that they learnt that Beecroft had also acted for the seller of Clowd Cottage. Later, the Reeds discovered that the house had been bought and sold once before with one law firm acting for both sides.

"On both occasions, the sale should have been prevented, and almost certainly would have been, had different solicitors been used," Mr Reed, a computer trainer, said.

Heavily in debt after renovating and improving Clowd Cottage in readiness for starting a family, the Reeds went to see Beecroft about the claim that someone else might have an interest in the house. "We thought their attitude was too relaxed," Mr Reed said. "When we walked out of there, we decided we must go and see someone else."

Mr Reed, aged 34, was refused legal aid on financial grounds, despite debts of £7,000 on a loan for home improvements. "We thought it was our house and most of our money went into improving it, and all of a sudden we could lose it," he said.

The Reeds went to another firm of solicitors, which managed to remove one of the charges on the property. A barrister was instructed to draft a claim against Beecroft for negligence. However, this law firm was taken over by another, and the Reeds felt that they were not receiving the support they needed. "I was passed from pillar to post," Mr Reed said.

In spring 1989, Mrs Reed gave birth to a son, but had to go back to work after six months because of legal fees. During litigation, the senior partner at Beecroft died and the firm was taken over, renaming itself Beecrofts. The managing clerk who dealt with the Reeds' conveyancing still works at Beecrofts.

The Reeds shifted solicitors again, moving to the London firm of Wedlake Bell. Last December, the High Court removed the remaining charge on the property, making clear that the brothers had no claim to half of it and that they should proceed against executors of their mother's estate, if anyone.

Negligence proceedings have been started against Beecroft and the estate of Donald Beecroft. The Reeds seek damages for distress and inconvenience, legal costs and extra interest incurred because they could not remortgage the house with two charges hanging over it. Mr Beecroft's insurers have paid the Reeds' legal costs up to and including the High Court action.

Initially, Beecrofts declined to comment. However, later, John Humphries, its managing clerk, said that the matter was "just an unfortunate set of circumstances". He said: "Instead of staying with us, the Reeds went to another firm of solicitors. Because of that the costs escalated." He admitted that Beecroft had acted for both sides in the Reeds' purchase. "It is not unusual," he said.

An ownership dispute that got out of hand. Jamie Dettmer continues a study of solicitors whose clients become victims

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Problem purchase: Trevor and Marius Reed at the home that strangers claimed after the couple had bought it

Solicitor may have absconded to Greece

LAW Society investigators want to trace a Hertfordshire solicitor who is believed to have absconded to Greece in April with more than £250,000 of clients' money.

Peter Turner, who ran a one-man practice in Harpenden, is thought to be investing in Greek property, and is suspected of using some of his clients' money to make personal investments in up to 25 British companies. His Rolls-Royce is also missing.

Problems with the practice emerged when a routine check of Mr Turner's books by the Law Society disclosed that he had failed to complete several transactions on behalf of his clients. In May, agents for the society secured a High Court order to search his home in Hemel Hempstead. They seized records, and the Hertfordshire fraud squad was called in. He has not been seen for three months.

Most of the money he is suspected of misusing comes from conveyancing cheques and sums lodged with him by clients before being invested. Several of Mr Turner's clients are believed to have had to default on house purchases.

Three Graces may find home in UK museum

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND, ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

THE company that owns Canova's *The Three Graces* is prepared to sell the controversial neo-classical statue to the Barclay brothers, the British hotel and property investors.

The breakthrough could mean that the statue, the subject of one of the biggest heritage furores of the decade,

Scottish newspaper closes

The Sunday Scot, launched in March by David Murray, the Glasgow Rangers football club owner, has closed after failing to reach its 250,000 circulation target (Melinda Wirtstock writes).

Sales of the newspaper, which set out to break the Scottish tabloid duopoly of D C Thomson's *Sunday Post* and the Mirror Group's *Sunday Mail*, had sunk to 70,000. Murray International Holdings said: "A poor advertising campaign at the launch and the poor quality of the first few editions failed to swing readers from their traditional Sunday papers."

Soldier jailed

A soldier disillusioned with army life was jailed for five years after admitting threatening to kill and using a firearm to resist arrest. Teesside crown court was told that Wayne Lawn, aged 20, of Preston, was shot in the legs by an officer when he broke out of a cell at Catterick barracks and ran towards a playground with a loaded rifle.

Pier show row

The actor Les Saxon, who lives in Poole, Dorset, called on Bournemouth council to cancel its pier show *Minstrels Down Lambeth Way*. He says it is offensive and racist.

Raleigh sale

A document signed by Sir Walter Raleigh, dated 1602, was auctioned at Nottingham for £1,265.

20mph limit

Britain's first 20mph speed limit is to be introduced in Horsham, West Sussex.



The Three Graces, subject of a heritage furor

Van Gogh to have field-sized tribute

By KERRY GILL

SPACE satellites and passengers of low-flying aircraft will witness a unique sight as they fly over the Scottish Borders from the middle of next month: a 46,000-sq-ft reproduction of one of Vincent van Gogh's *Sunflowers* paintings.

A wheatfield whose position will remain secret until the flowers bloom has been prepared with 250,000 plants. Marigolds have been used as sunflowers would suffer from the vagaries of the borders' winds, according to Andrew Scott, the horticulturalist who thought of the idea to help to promote the country's bedding plant industry. He hopes

that what is thought to be the largest reproduction of a painting ever undertaken will bloom successfully enough to be identified from space satellites.

The field was prepared with the help of more than 30 other Scottish growers, and the marigolds will begin to flower in time to celebrate the 101st anniversary of Van Gogh's death. Mr Scott said he was obsessed with the painting and decided to recreate it with plants. But he needed a whole wheatfield "so that the colour of the ripe wheat could form the frame as well as reflecting the final torment of Van Gogh's life".

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Playing by ear: staff on the Roland Keyboards stand at the International Music Show at Olympia, west London, testing headphones used for live keyboard demonstrations at the five-day exhibition, which closes on Sunday

Flat leaseholders poised to win right to buy freeholds

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

AROUND 1.5 million leaseholders of flats, many of them in London, will have the right to buy their freehold under proposals to be presented by the government today for a "commonhold" system of ownership.

The introduction of

commonhold, based on a system used in America and Australia, is considered the most important change in property ownership for many years. It is the culmination of years of protest by leaseholders about extortionate rents and service charges and failure

to maintain properties.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, will propose the radical package in the Lords after considering comments made since he announced his intentions last November. It is proposed that leaseholders will be able to buy the freehold of the properties, many of them London mansion blocks, at market value if a clear majority of residents agree.

While leaseholders applauded the proposals, there was criticism. The Grosvenor Estate, owned by the Duke of Westminster, said it was disappointed that it had been advocating the introduction of commonhold on a gradual voluntary basis to give flat dwellers more choice.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors has supported the general proposal, but strongly opposes any suggestion of compulsion. Gerry Fox, institution spokesman, said: "It is illusory to believe that commonhold will reduce service charges, and commonhold will also create new problems. It is not hard, for instance, to envisage how an unco-operative few could make a commonhold association unworkable."

Under the proposals it is expected that holders of leases of over 21 years will have the right to buy, and that the owners will be compelled to sell their freehold interest at market value if a clear majority of the leaseholders, perhaps 75 per cent, vote for it. It is likely to be suggested that leaseholders are offered for sale at market price, and the question of whether landlords should be compelled to sell is expected to be one of the most controversial parts of the package.

Appeal to bank as pigs face slaughter

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

MOST of the largest surviving herd of Gloucester Old Spots, one of seven breeds of rare pigs, could face slaughter in the next month unless its owner can persuade his bank to relax its overdraft terms.

Charles Russell, of Little Orchard Farm, Hope Bagot, Shropshire, has told the National Westminster Bank that 70 of his 100 breeding sows might have to go.

The fate of the pigs has hung in the balance since the bank refused six months ago to raise Mr Russell's overdraft from £30,000 to £40,000 when he was in the middle of an expansion programme and needed the money to meet extra feed and labour costs and for new pig shelters and concrete pathways.

Such was the response from sympathisers, among them the Prince of Wales, who donated money for the building of a visitor centre, that the slaying of the herd was postponed. A limited company, Harnes Rare Breeds, was set up last month, with 20 members of the public as shareholders, to fatten and market the pigs.

"The problem is that earnings from sale of the pigs to the company are now being taken by the bank to pay off the overdraft and I cannot continue like that," Mr Russell said. "Unless the bank changes its attitude or more people invest in the company I will have to slaughter the pigs to raise funds."

His free-range, organically-reared herd includes all 15 remaining female bloodlines and accounts for 20 per cent of the national breeding stock of the "orchard pig", so called because of its ability to live off fallen fruit. The bank does not think the herd's commercial prospects warrant extending Mr Russell's credit further.

Iniquity rooted in feudal times

By LIN JENKINS

WHEN Mike Scott tried to extend the lease on the London flat that he loved and proposed to secure as his home, he was bemused to discover that the law entitled landlords to act as a modern-day Dick Turpin.

Like many people, he had assumed that owning the leasehold gave him certain rights over his home. He found, however, that the owner of the freehold in the property had no obligation to sell an extension to the lease.

Mr Scott learnt from neighbours that the landlord would be willing to give a 50-year extension for about £70,000, but he reckoned: "At the age of 57, with 40 years [of lease] to go, I was likely to die before that, so why should I be wasting my money on extending the lease?"

Although the lease had been bought from the previous leaseholder with those 40 years left, Mr Scott's outrage at the plight of others less securely placed led him to found the Commonhold Flats Campaign.

The iniquitous position of leaseholders is rooted in the feudal system of the country-

side by which leasehold and freehold prevailed, along with a strict social structure. There seemed no alternative when mansion blocks and other shared dwellings with an element of ownership appeared on the city skyline.

Since flats were so new, the problem has only come to light in recent years. Maurice Hickman, aged 78, and his wife, Lena, 72, joined the campaign when the shortening length of their lease suggested that they might end their days without a home. They had 12 years left on their flat at Folkestone, Kent, when the freeholder refused to consider a request for extension, although leaseholders are the ones who pay for the upkeep of their home. They spoke to local councillors and petitioned their MP on the matter, but still their request received the reply that an extension was not for sale.

In some mansion blocks, the problem has been compounded by freeholders' neglect of the buildings. Mr Scott said: "It is not until things go wrong that the leaseholder realises he owns nothing more than a cube of time."

Bred to hunt down jaguars and slaves

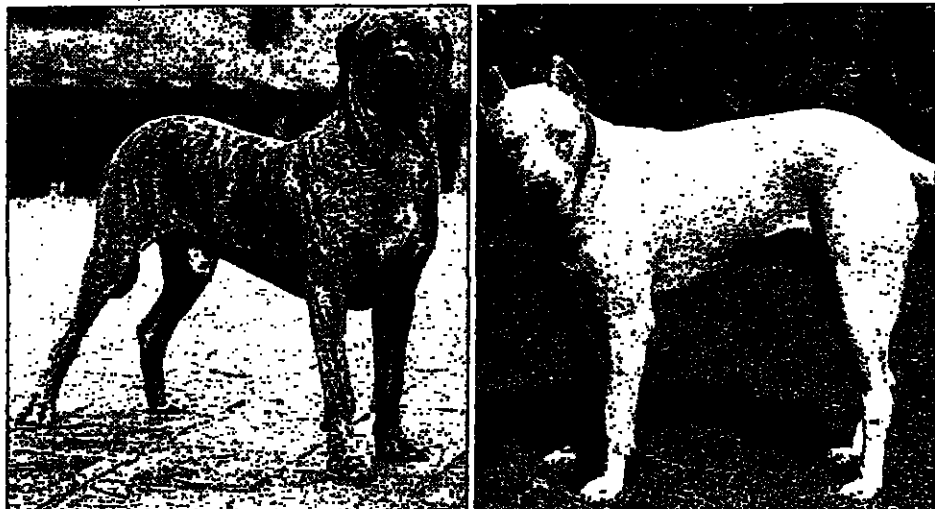
Bill Frost traces the violent ancestry of the dogo argentino and fila brasileiro, the latest dogs to face a banning order from Britain

THE dogo argentino and fila brasileiro, the latest breeds earmarked for a banning order under the dangerous dogs bill, have fearsome reputations for strength and fighting prowess.

The dogo, weighing more than 100lb, was used by ranchers in its native South America to hunt pumas, jaguars and other big cats preying on cattle. The fila brasileiro, also a canine heavyweight, was bred to track down runaway slaves. Inevitably, the dogs were used for fighting.

Both breeds were outlawed in Holland earlier this year after a spate of unprovoked attacks against children and adults.

The Dutch authorities had also noted that the South American fighting dogs were becoming increasingly popular with drug dealers who would set them on police and rival pushers. The animals were used frequently in illegal dog fights where large



South American heavyweights: the fila brasileiro (left) and the dogo argentino

sums of money changed hands.

Dogo argentino, nicknamed the Argie mastiff, was bred by Dr Antonio Norés Martinez 70 years ago. The root stock for his lethal recipe was the Cordoba fighting dog from Spain. The *Atlas of Dog Breeds of the World* says: "The Cordobas were only interested in one thing - fighting; they were so vicious, a male would attack bitches during the mating ritual."

Other ingredients which helped to make up the dogo were the great dane, the English pointer, the Pyrenean mountain dog and the

Irish wolfhound. Dr Martinez described the dogo as "a trustworthy family dog which is also a worthy opponent for the puma and the jaguar."

In the wrong hands the trustworthy pet became a ruthless killing machine. As the *Atlas* put it: "They are true dogs of the heart, showing no hesitancy... they are ready to attack."

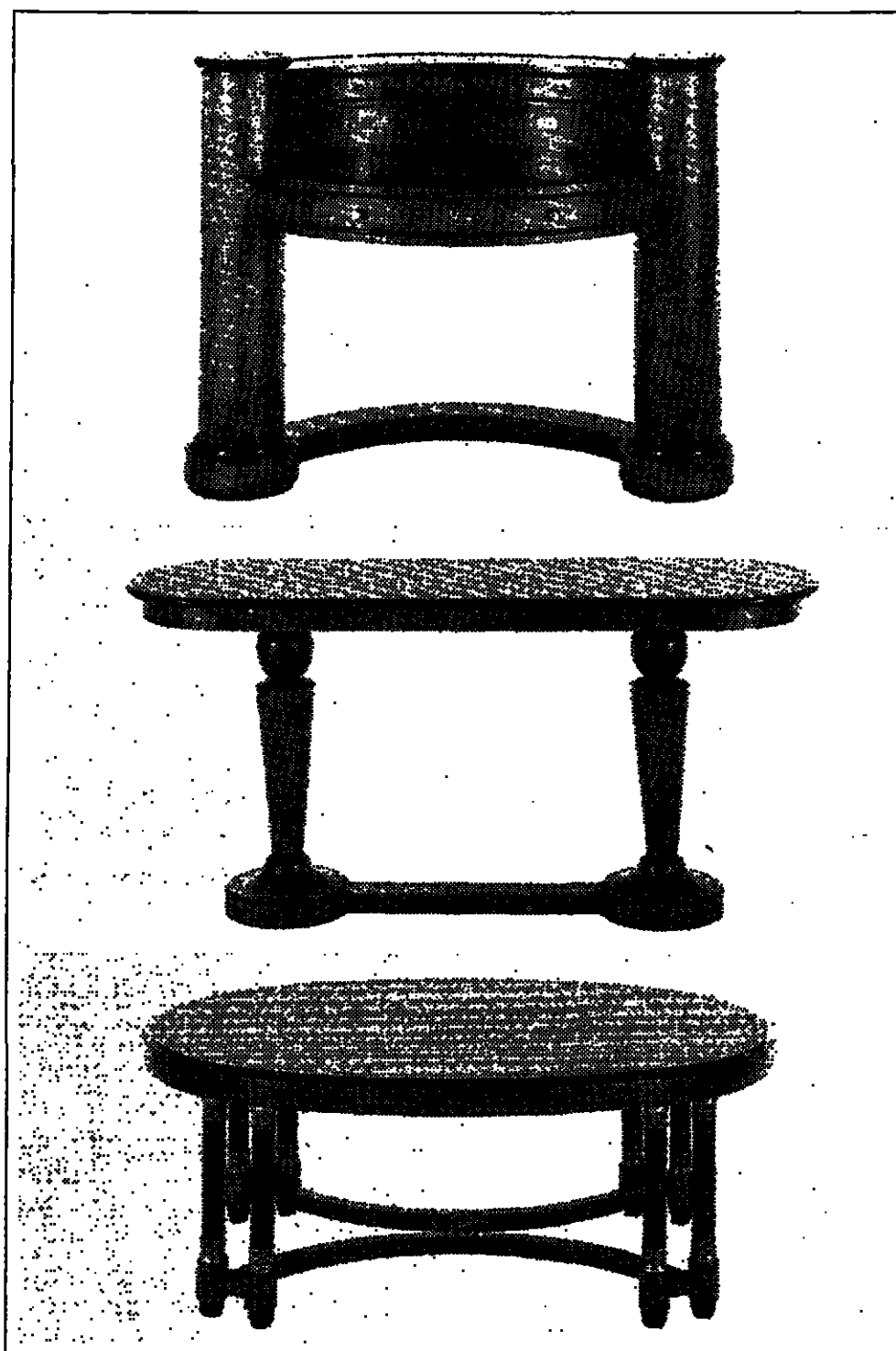
The fila brasileiro is every inch as lethal. Its ancestors were brought to Brazil by Portuguese conquistadores in the 16th century. Three hundred years later a breeder mixed in mastiff and bloodhound. The fila, then recast

as a scenthound, was used to find escaped slaves, but because of its ferocity few survived recapture.

Dog-show judges in Brazil are warned not to touch the fila. "If they wish to keep their fingers, since owners often encourage aggression".

The *Atlas* says: "This breed needs a home that understands and needs a dog that will not be friendly with strangers... they should not attack viciously for no reason." But a spokesman for the Dutch foreign ministry said of those who keep filas: "They have not been good owners. The dogs were used in all the wrong ways."

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Foreign firms may be allowed to run trains on UK track

By PETER MULLIGAN AND JOHN WINDER

FOREIGN companies will be able to run railways in Britain after privatisation, Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, indicated in the Commons last night.

He was speaking during second reading of a bill to extend the borrowing limit of British Rail during which he brushed aside reservations among some MPs about the practicalities of privatisation.

Challenged on his feelings if SNCF, the French national railway, asked to run trains on British track, he said: "If we hope for the opportunity for British operators to operate in other European countries, the reverse will also have to apply so the policy can be taken forward."

John Prescott, the shadow transport secretary, said that it

was not necessary to privatise to attract private investment in the railways.

But Mr Rifkind, proclaiming a growing trend in favour of privatisation, said that the Japanese already shared Britain's view. The Dutch were considering it and the Germans thought it might be necessary.

He hailed as "historic" an agreement in principle by the European Community to give the right of access to international operators. It was in tune with the British approach of "opening the monopoly as soon as possible".

Mr Rifkind said that he had been heartened in the past few weeks by many approaches

from companies around Britain interested in considering how to use the railways. He said: "We will be having a seminar in the very near future to which we have invited those who have an industrial interest in the possible use of rail to explore ways of taking these matters forward."

Despite the £40 million losses recently announced by British Rail, he said that it was encouraging that InterCity and Bulk Freight had demonstrated their capacity to make a profit.

Mr Prescott said that at the heart of the argument was that the Commons should make up its mind what it wanted to do with the railways.

Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) said that that was important, because if they could get a consensus on railway policy and long-term planning, they might be able to take politics out of the railways.

Mr Prescott said that the argument was about how they dealt with the system, with the development of the public service obligation, in the Seventies they had begun to identify two sides of the railway, the social and the profitable.

He was not limited in his ideas about the future finance of the system after talking recently to the bus industry. The government could play a part. They could argue about whether the railways should be public or private, but access to the market was conditioned by that.

Mr Rifkind asked whether he was saying that he would change the rules so that the whole of the public sector would be allowed access to private sector money (which would be more expensive) and that levels of investment would still be comparable to those at present, or that access would be allowed both to private money and the national loans fund.

Mr Prescott said that Mr Rifkind should consider a whole new financial market for the railway system.

The bill, which increases the limit of British Rail's borrowing to £3,000 million, was being rushed through all stages in the Commons.



The Four Graces: Robert Atkins, the sports minister, with three young assistants, launching the schools aerobics championships at Abingdon Green, near the House of Commons, yesterday

Kaufman switch criticised

THE Labour party was accused yesterday of changing its defence policy to protect itself and not the country. Labour MPs protested during Commons question time as the prime minister used questions by his own backbenchers to decry the way Gerald Kaufman, Labour foreign affairs spokesman, had shifted Labour policy another step away from nuclear unilateralism in an article.

When it was said that Labour defence policy had changed, however, several Labour MPs shouted denials. But John Major's parting shot was that the electorate remained aware of Labour's unilateralist tendency.

The matter was raised first by Sir John Farr (Harborough, C), who was at first cheered from both sides on his return after an illness, but the cheers changed to protests from Labour MPs when they realised that he was discussing their defence policy.

He urged the prime minister to look at a "recent Labour announcement" that the party was going to keep the deterrent.

Ridley 'reeking of bile' feels Lawson lash

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE rival historians of the Thatcher era fell out again yesterday.

Nigel Lawson, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, alleged that Nicholas Ridley's new book was "riddled with errors and reeking of bile". Describing Mr Ridley as his "former friend and cabinet colleague", Mr Lawson accused him of losing all sense of objectivity. He had written a work of hagiography.

Mr Lawson, who is penning his own memoirs but spending rather longer over it than Mr Ridley, used a two-page review in *The Spectator* — edited by Dominic Lawson, his son — to slate his old chum's efforts and repeat his view that Margaret Thatcher's own flaws had brought about her downfall as prime minister. He disclosed how the mood in the government changed for the worse after 1987, perhaps because of the departure of the "irreplaceable" William Whitelaw.

He catalogues the alleged mistakes in *My Style of Government: The Thatcher Years* and writes of Mr Ridley's "carelessness with the facts".

The former trade and industry secretary had written "the story of Margaret, saint, miracle-worker and martyr — and how she was betrayed by the Judases she brought to her table. How every success was hers alone; every failure that of her colleagues."

Warning to his task, Mr Lawson says that there was no substance whatever in Mr Ridley's astonishing charge that he and Sir Geoffrey Howe became "out of sympathy with major elements of her government's aims and were actively working against her."

He says: "The only issue Mr Ridley can conceivably

have in mind was policy over the exchange rate, where his conclusion is based on a wholly false assumption about both the declared policy of the government and the way in which economic policy was carried out in practice throughout most of the Thatcher years."

Mr Lawson continues: "Perhaps I am a political innocent; for although there were certainly all too many leaks, I was wholly unaware over more than a decade as one of her ministers that her colleagues were constantly plotting and conspiring and attempting to 'destabilise' Margaret Thatcher."

"Nor do I believe that they were. But what is clear is that, somewhere along the way, perhaps after the departure of the irreplaceable Willie Whitelaw at the end of 1987, the mood changed. The great adventure on which we had all

embarked in 1979 to rescue Britain from economic and political decline by charting a radically new way forward and having the courage to see it through, had led in some quarters, it seems, to a bunker mentality."

Norman Tebbit, Norman Fowler, Lord Whitelaw and Lord Young of Graffham have already shed some light on the Thatcher years in their books. Cecil Parkinson is preparing his version of events. Mr Lawson's is keenly awaited at Westminster.

When it appears, Mr Ridley will no doubt take his revenge. But will he use the pages of *The Spectator* to review Mr Lawson? That would seem unlikely. His last appearance in the pages of the journal — his ill-fated interview with Dominic Lawson in which he alleged that the Germans were trying to take over Europe — led to his enforced departure from the government.



Major attacks London councils

John Major blamed Labour councils in inner London and the defunct Inner London Education Authority yesterday for destroying job opportunities for young people in the capital.

Questioned by Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, Lib Dem), the prime minister said that he hoped to visit south London soon. He criticised the education policies pursued in the past and said that Labour councils had put up business rates and driven firms away.

New pay row side-stepped

The prime minister sought to steer clear of the latest row surrounding pay rises for privatised industry chairman. Questioned about the rise of 181 per cent awarded to Bryan Worsell, chairman of Manweb, John Major said: "It is a matter for the companies and not for me." But, he said, pay awards should "reflect what is reasonable".

Spirits raised

Publicans in Northern Ireland are to be allowed to serve spirits in measures of 35ml in addition to the normal British measure of 25ml, Richard Needham, Northern Ireland under secretary, announced at question time.

Punters' view

Ladbrokes, the bookmakers, have made Labour 8/11 favourites to win the next election. The Conservatives are quoted as evens and the Liberal Democrats at 100/1. May, at 2/1, is the favourite date for the election, although money is now going on November and is quoted at 11/4. June is third favourite at 4/1.

Dock review

The employment and transport departments have commissioned a wide-ranging research project into the effects of the abolition of the dock labour scheme. Eric Forth, an employment minister, said in a written reply. The study will take about fifteen months and cost about £140,000. It will assess the economic and social consequences of abolition.

Tank contract

The contract for about 130 Challenger 2 tanks has been placed with Vickers, Alan Clark, defence procurement minister, said in a written reply. His statement comes after the government's decision last month to select the vehicle as the army's main battle tank, against strong overseas competition.



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Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be:

Monday: Finance bill, progress on remaining stages.

Tuesday: Finance bill, conclusion of remaining stages. Criminal Justice bill, Lords amendments.

Wednesday: Debate on Plaid Cymru motion on the structure of government in Wales.

Thursday: Child support bill, remaining stages.

Friday: Debate on schools. The main business in the House of Lords is expected to be:

Monday: School teachers' pay and conditions bill, report.

Tuesday: Export and investment guarantees bill, committee continued.

Wednesday: Local government (finance and valuation) bill, report.

Thursday: Dangerous dogs bill, report. Ports bill and Atomic Weapons Establishment bill, third readings.

Friday: Finance bill, all stages.

Recess date for both Houses

Both Houses of Parliament will rise for the summer recess on Thursday July 25 and return on Monday October 14.

Business in Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on the environment. Lords (11): Motion on student loans.

Lib Dems put electoral reform at the centre

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Liberal Democrats sought to steal a march on their political opponents yesterday by making electoral reform a key plank of their proposals for a citizens' charter.

On the day that the cabinet discussed John Major's scheme to revolutionise service standards in the public sector by giving new rights to consumers, the centre party unveiled "citizens' Britain", its blueprint for a "people's charter".

Labour has already tried to pre-empt the prime minister's initiative by releasing its own version of the charter. Yesterday's announcement by the Liberal Democrats means that all three parties are fighting over much the same ground.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, tried to give a distinctive flavour to his party's approach by accusing his rivals of ignoring the political dimension in their efforts to strengthen the hand of individuals in their dealings with the state.

"I welcome the fact that citizenship is now on the political agenda. But the other parties' proposals do not meet our radical agenda. They are pale imitations of what is required because they confuse consumerism with citizenship," he said.

"Our proposals give people



Ashdown: proposals give people real power

real power over the government and over the way they conduct their lives. Political power and social power combine to ensure consumer power."

Meanwhile, government sources denied reports that the prime minister's quest for a citizens' charter had become bogged down in inter-departmental wrangling over the extent of the shake-up. As Francis Maude, the Treasury minister co-ordinating the op-

eration, gave the cabinet a progress report, the sources indicated that a "large amount" of the charter was now in place, although some of the items were still unresolved.

The Liberal Democrat document said that there was a broad consensus among the political parties on consumer rights. Any list would have to include rights to access, information, redress, representation, equity, safety and value for money. The point at issue was the will to put those principles to work and the extent to which they should be applied.

Political citizenship was just as important as social citizenship and economic citizenship. It meant at national level a fair voting system based on proportional representation, a bill of rights as part of a written constitution, devolution of power from the centre, freedom of information and a team of ombudsmen scrutinising government departments and reporting to a select committee of MPs.

"By supporting an outdated, undemocratic electoral system, Conservatives and Labour deny thousands of their own voters the first right of citizenship — equal participation in choosing the government," the party's document said.

G7 summit meeting

Media spotlight will fall on Major's role at centre stage

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

It is a fortuitous stroke for John Major that Britain should be the host country for the G7 summit of leading industrialised nations next week. Playing the world statesman on home ground gives in a rare chance to develop its authority in an election year.

The prime minister is known for his resistance to name-making. But there is an almost audible snatching of breath in the higher reaches of the Tory party as party strategists contemplate the rich set of photo opportunities ahead at the group therapy session with heads of state and government from the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy and Canada.

By the year the media circus is almost to all the rings it can

Margaret Thatcher never did to make the best of her summit opportunities, notably those at Williamsburg during the 1983 general election and at Venice in 1987, when Mr Major, who has done

at his two European summits so far, will gain further confidence from hosting the Seven, let alone the ring to follow with Mikhail Gorbachev.

The difficulty he faces is that Margaret Thatcher attended her last few G7s as the experienced summititeer. While other debuts were feeling their way

know how to get results, he hesitated to bang the drum and most of the time in the past years had an experienced chancellor and foreign secretary with her, too. British

crises set out before the summit, on countering ter-

rorism, preventing the laundering of drug money or recycling third world debt, were regularly achieved. This time only Douglas Hurd, on the British side, has attended a summit before in the same role.

But ever since Giscard d'Estaing invented the summits at Rambouillet in 1975 there has been an unwritten code about these things. Those present normally ensure that the host country is allowed to score a point or two in the final communiqué. That, of course, has always been drafted by the sherpas, with only the dependent clauses to be settled in the chat beneath the mirrors of Lancaster House.

Mr Major, at his best in small gatherings and a meticulous preparer, said yesterday that he expected no ambushes at the G7. Just to make sure, he will have bilateral meetings on Sunday before Monday's official start with George Bush, with Toshiki Kaifu of Japan, Giulio Andreotti of Italy and Canada's Brian Mulroney.

The first British objective has been met already in the agreements hammered out by the sherpas. There will be no big cash handout for President Gorbachev and the meeting with the Soviet leader will be kept strictly separate from the summit proper.

Mr Major is looking for an agreement to register and limit arms supplies in excess of countries' strictly defensive requirements, with a view to curbing the ambitions of future Saddam Husseins.

Wary of the years of discussion about cutting agricultural subsidies which seem

to lead nowhere, he is looking to give a stimulus to the Uruguay round of the Gatt trade talks, something last year's Houston summit signally failed to do despite much huffing and puffing on the subject. And he and Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, are looking to achieve the "Trinidad terms" formula to improve debt relief for the world's poorest countries.

British negotiators accept they will do well to achieve two out of three of their objectives. The French and Germans remain sticky about agricultural subsidies and a Gatt deal, the Americans are none too keen on the debt relief package and President Mitterrand has his own arms control plan which may make him reluctant to bless Mr Major's arms register scheme.

G7 report, page 1
World circus, page 14



Last chapter: Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, Soviet foreign minister, arriving in the US for talks aimed at finalising a nuclear arms treaty prior to a superpower summit

Gorbachev letter raises US hopes on nuclear treaty

FROM SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

SOVIET and American officials were guardedly optimistic yesterday that a fresh attempt in Washington to resolve arcane differences over a strategic nuclear arms treaty would bring about a superpower summit in Moscow by the end of the month.

Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the Soviet foreign minister, handed President Bush a letter from President Gorbachev outlining compromises that negotiators hoped would help end three technical disputes holding up an agreement after almost ten years of talks.

The letter boosted American optimism that Mr Bessmertnykh and other key Soviet officials had come to the United States, at Mr Bush's request, with approval from the Kremlin to authorise new positions.

After a morning meeting with President Bush, Mr Bessmertnykh said that his team would "try to merge" suggestions from the two sides. He added that remaining differences were so technical that "in a certain way we are hostages of either crazy professors or some technicians".

Mr Bush has said he is unwilling to hold a summit without at least an agreement in principle on a strategic arms reduction treaty (Sart). But he is also keen to have a reason to meet at length with Mr Gorbachev to discuss a range of other issues, including the Soviet leader's commitment to democratic reform, post-war strategy in the Gulf and ethnic unrest in the Soviet Union.

Mr Gorbachev, meanwhile, wants to wrap up a treaty to prove to the West his commitment to reform before he addresses Mr Bush and the leaders of Britain, Germany, Japan, Canada, France and Italy next week at the G7 summit in London.

Mr Bessmertnykh also met James Baker, the US Secretary of State. American officials interpreted as a good sign the fact that the Soviet foreign minister was accompanied by Mikhail Moiseyev, Mr Gorbachev's leading military official. The general is expected to be able to approve instantly any compromises worked out by Mr Baker and Mr Bessmertnykh.

Kaifu looking to Bush as saviour

FROM PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR, IN WASHINGTON

HIKI Kaifu, the Japanese minister, arrived at the Bush's holiday yesterday for his sixth visit to the United States in years. The aim, said administration officials, was to prepare for next week's G7 mit in London, to agree Gulf war payments, and, as most importantly, to Mr Kaifu himself.

Mr Bush makes much of his personal relationship "my friend Toshiki", but as not yet made a reciprocal visit to Japan — an action beginning to arouse diplomatic sensitivities.

The invitation to the president's Kennebunkport at came at a time when White House recognises Mr Kaifu's job is on the line. His respectability abroad is to be all that protects him from ceremonial execution by party bosses back home, as one aide put it.

With sides want to settle much Japan should pay Operation Desert Storm. Kaifu brought with him \$1 million (£308 million) to the Gulf Peace Fund to help pay exchange rates as incurred between the ring of Tokyo's \$9 billion annuity and their delivery in the war was over. America had been also

demanding a further \$700 million to make up for money paid by Japan to other coalition powers, including Britain, which the US Treasury thought it should have. It appeared yesterday that Mr Bush would probably forgo this sum in order to sweeten the atmosphere for winning Japanese aid on delicate trade issues next week.

Top of the US agenda is the need for Japan to make even a token opening to imports in its domestic trade market. Without this, trade officials say there is much less prospect of budgeting the EC agricultural producers from their own protectionist strongholds.



Kaifu: invitation helped defuse troubles at home

Cossiga dismisses bomb plot report

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN ROME

President Cossiga said yesterday he was unaware of a bomb threat against him in a visit to Budapest last weekend, despite an Italian interior ministry report earlier that Hungarian police had

ed a bomb attack against him in Budapest, senior officials in charge of government security said the Italian report of a bomb threat was unfounded.

Interior ministry and ss reports said that Hungarian police discovered a mine near a cemetery minutes before Signor Cossiga was to pay homage at the graves of victims of the 1956 Hungarian uprising. The ministry

not visit the cemetery as planned. The cemetery visit finally proceeded after Hungarian security men and bomb experts searched the area, the Italian ministry said. Neither the interior ministry nor Italian press reports of the alleged plot said who was behind it.

Signor Cossiga said he was waiting for the results of investigations. He said: "I think it was perhaps a gesture of demonstration, because generally in modern societies, when there is an attack, it succeeds." He said however that he was certain the Hungarian police "had reasons for asking me not to go to the place where we did go".

It was the second time in less than a month that the Hungarian authorities have dismissed reports of an attempted attack on a visiting head of state. Last month they rejected press reports that Hungarian police had failed a plot attempt against Israeli President Chaim Herzog.

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Serbs weigh gains and losses as leaders prepare to redraw map of Yugoslavia

Slovenes fear Belgrade has won fight for EC sympathy

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN LJUBLJANA

MILAN Kucan, the Slovene president, yesterday claimed that the terms of the ceasefire with Yugoslav federal troops were being floated by Belgrade's failure to allow European Community monitors to enter Slovenia.

He claimed that the advance party of ten observers who have been awaited since Wednesday were being held up by the federal authorities. The team has visited Belgrade and the Croatian capital, Zagreb, but its journey to Ljubljana has been postponed twice.

The Yugoslav authorities, who control the country's air traffic, say that the airport in the Slovene capital is unsafe after last week's bombing.

Mr Kucan said: "We are very anxious that the EC delegation should be present to monitor the ceasefire. We have offered safety and transport to no avail. They are

sympathy for Slovene aims. The president was barely seeking to hide the fact that he considers the Brijuni agreement to be something of a poisoned chalice, concocted by a European Community which only half comprehends the complexities of what he called "this Balkan confusion". He said that peace remained fragile and would only become firm when the rest of the world made clear that it would not tolerate the use of force against the break-away republic.

"The problem for Europe is that Yugoslavia is not a democratic state with a clearly defined relationship between the government and the army. The army is conserving a situation of tension where an incident on our side could easily spark off aggression on theirs".

He is a slightly-built man who all but disappears into his leather chair in the ornate conference room in the presidential palace. He has not yet acquired the haughty distance to accompany his title and, despite his exhaustion, he can still manage a joke or two. As a member of the Slovene Communist party since he was a schoolboy, he has found it difficult to win the confidence of the Christian Democrats who now dominate the government. But he has convincingly transferred his revolutionary zeal to the separatist cause. Ideological disputes have been dispelled by the federal army's attack which has done more than anything to re-establish the republic's identity.

Slovenia, he said, would never re-enter a Yugoslav federation, although he could imagine a community of southern European sovereign states modelled on the EC. "It is not our intention, as perhaps some Europeans fear, to break away into an enclosed autarchical state. Our future is open to negotiation."



Kucan: Slovene future is open to negotiation

being kept from us so that the federal army can clean up the traces of the damage it inflicted here during the fighting." Mr Kucan's concern reflects a feeling in Slovenia that, in the aftermath of the ceasefire, Belgrade has manoeuvred itself back into a position of influence with the EC, outweighing European



Taking cover: Croatian national guard soldiers duck behind an armoured personnel carrier as clashes between Serbs and Croats continued in Osijek, eastern Croatia yesterday. Two people were reported killed and three wounded in the fighting

Croatian clashes threaten truce

By ANNE McELVOY

THE nervous ceasefire in Yugoslavia was threatened once again yesterday by bouts of fighting in Croatia. Police and ethnic Serbs fought an overnight battle in which two people are reported dead and one seriously injured.

The fighting began inside a house on the outskirts of Osijek which was later rammed by an armoured personnel carrier and set on fire. Sporadic gunfire was reported throughout eastern Croatia during Wednesday night with no reports of casualties.

In Slovenia, which has been quiet since the ceasefire, a Yugoslav army convoy was forced to withdraw from the border with Croatia after it was surrounded by Slovene defence forces. The army withdrew 20ft into Croatian

territory. The commander of the federal airforce in Slovenia, Colonel Ljubomir Bajic, said yesterday that his pilots would not hesitate to destroy Slovene forces if military helicopters were attacked. Januz Jansa, the Slovene defence minister, had threatened to take action against helicopters which flew outside Slovene determined air corridors.

In a further reflection of unease, a summit of the presidents of the country's six republics, scheduled for today, was postponed after disagreements about the venue. Radio Belgrade reported that the Serbian leader, Slobodan Milosevic, has refused to travel to the island of Brijuni while some other leaders would not meet in Belgrade.

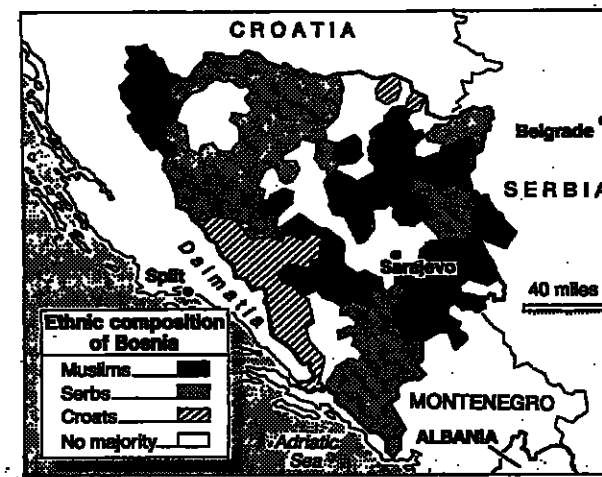
Zagreb sees an Islamic buffer state as way out

FROM TIM JUDAH IN ZAGREB

A SENIOR adviser to Franjo Tudjman, the Croatian president, confirmed yesterday that secret talks have taken place between the leaders of Serbia and Croatia to resolve the Yugoslav conflict by carving up the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and creating an Islamic buffer state between them. "It's on the table," said Mario Nobilo. "Maybe this is now the best option for a lasting solution."

His statement confirmed rumours which have been circulating for several months and explain remarks made by Dr Tudjman on television earlier this week when he said: "If the demand by Serbia that 'all Serbs live in one state' be realised, then nobody can deny the same rights to Croats."

While Bosnia-Herzegovina is a historic entity, there is no such thing as a Bosnian nation. Croats make up 19 per cent, Serbs 32 per cent and Muslims about 42 per cent. Alija Izetbegovic, the president of Bosnia-Herzegovina who is a Muslim, has said that he believes that the three groups in his republic can continue to live together but on Wednesday he told the European Community to pay attention to the situation, saying it could "provoke war". Mr Nobilo said that Dr Tudjman and Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian leader, had discussed the deal in at least two meetings. More talks had been proposed which had been postponed because of the situation in Slovenia. A key part of the negotiations would be the creation of a Muslim state in the centre of Bosnia-Herzegovina and voluntary population exchanges. Mr



Nobilo cited the mass "changes of population between Turkey and Greece which took place after the first world war."

Mr Nobilo said: "If the Muslims believe they can turn the whole of Bosnia-Herzegovina into an Islamic state they are wrong. There should be some deal. If they want a sovereign state we would respect it. It would be the size of Slovenia — they should seriously consider this." He emphasised that Croatia had no intention of "destabilising" Bosnia-Herzegovina. Changes could come only on the basis of self-determination. Both Serb and Croat leaders in the republic are interested in joining greater republics.

Mr Nobilo's revelations are bound to surprise EC foreign ministers, especially as he expects the partition to be discussed during talks due to take place over the next three months, as a result of the EC-brokered peace accord. The division would result in bloodshed as the three groups would fight over territory. The

physical driving out of people in an effort to establish new frontiers has begun. On Tuesday night the eastern Croatian village of Celije, which is close to the Serbian border and surrounded by Serbian villages, was set on fire after being evacuated.

Asked whether Croatia would consider ceding territory to Serbia, especially Serb-populated enclaves in eastern Croatia and the Krajina region, Mr Nobilo said that it was out of the question. The thinking behind the deal seems to be that the main antagonists could be satisfied by both gaining at Bosnia-Herzegovina's expense and neither losing anything.

Hido Bisovic, the editor of the main Croatian daily *Vjesnik*, said that the president of Bosnia-Herzegovina was unlikely to accept a small Islamic rump state. "If two guys tried to carve up the main republic, I'd reply by demanding a greater Muslim state including Albania, Kosovo, other Muslim parts of Serbia and parts of Macedonia."

Both the Ukraine and Russia refused to sign the government's predominantly economic programme unless the tax arrangements were changed, and Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, said last week that most of the other republics agreed with them. The footnote in the final edition of the programme seemed to be the concession they had been waiting for and the prime ministers of both republics appended their signatures.

Yesterday, however, as discussion moved on to the new union treaty, which combines political and economic principles, senior members of the Soviet government and the Soviet parliament stressed that a federal tax was a prerequisite. Valentin Pavlov, the prime minister, told a Moscow press conference that the question of a federal tax was "absolutely vital to whether there will be a union or a confederation, whether there will be a single state or no state as such". No state exists without its own financial resources, he said.

● Food slump: the parlous state of the Soviet food industry has been underlined by new figures which show slumping production of butter, cheese and meat in the first half of 1991. The figures are a body blow to the state, struggling to overcome critical food supply problems and facing a sharply lower grain harvest because of widespread drought.

Tass said a government food commission showed butter, cheese and meat production in the first six months of 1991 fell 13 per cent while sausage production dropped by 10 per cent. (Reuters)

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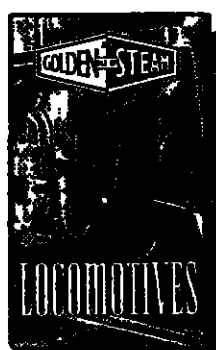


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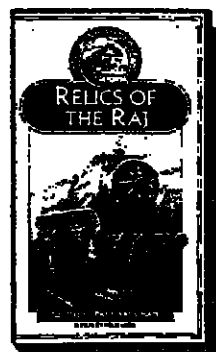
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MPs reject Wales's ballot bill

FROM PAT KOZA IN WARSAW

PRESIDENT Walesa suffered another setback yesterday when parliament overwhelmingly rejected his latest attempt to change the rules for Poland's first free parliamentary elections, scheduled for October 27.

The Sejm, or lower house, rejected by 258-89 with 14 abstentions a presidential bill that would let Poles with less than five years' residency run for office, and would mean voters could opt for a party rather than individual candidates. The current law has a five-year residency requirement, which excludes those forced to emigrate during communist rule for political reasons.

Mr Walesa had previously vetoed two electoral bills that failed to include his suggestions, but the second veto was overridden by the Sejm and the president was constitutionally obliged to sign it. He reintroduced his proposals in the form of a new bill.

Some political observers believe Mr Walesa is using the controversy to deflect rising discontent over the economic hardship brought by Poland's radical reforms.

Charges of betrayal fall on Bonn's chosen sons

Will Helmut Kohl qualify for a free tombstone? Not if he is buried in Bonn, where he entered the history books as the chancellor of German unity. A free grave is a perk that goes with honorary citizenship, but after backing the campaign to move the government to Berlin, Herr Kohl is not even being considered for inclusion in the list of freemen, which includes most chancellors.

He has been nominated in Berlin, with Wolfgang Schäuble, the interior minister, whose impassioned speech probably clinched it. Thus, the grave question is settled for them.

As a Rhineland, Herr Kohl was expected to opt for Bonn, especially as he is an admirer of Konrad Adenauer, the first West German chancellor, who picked the city as capital. Herr Kohl relishes his new nickname of "Adenauer's grandson", and it must have been a shock when Adenauer's real grandson left the Christian Democrats because he felt Herr Kohl had betrayed the party in backing Berlin.

Adenauer, who once said he disliked "Prussians, Russians and the British — in that order", hated the idea of rule from the Prussian capital.

Those close to the chancellor believe that he was trying to play both ends against the middle. He believed that Bonn would win whatever he said, but it was politically better to be

seen supporting Berlin. The chancellor is not the only citizen criticised in Bonn for betrayal.

There has been some bitchiness towards the famous names who supported Berlin. Anger is rife in Pech, a village south of the city, about the behaviour of Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who has lived there since he became foreign minister 17 years ago. He sold his house four months before the Bundestag vote. There is widespread muttering about how he persuaded most Free Democrats to back Berlin. *The Bild* asked: "Hans-Dietrich is in Bonn for three whole days this week. Is he ill?"

There has been talk of stripping President von Weizsäcker of his honorary citizenship because he backed Berlin. The president was chosen in a poll recently as the politician from whom most

people would be likely to buy a used car. He did more than twice as well as Herr Kohl, who could only unload a second-hand Volkswagen on about 35 per cent of the population.

His support for Berlin was considered so damning to Bonn's chances that one restaurant announced it would not serve him. The president is probably not worried, since he is an honorary citizen of Berlin, where he was once mayor, and has a free grave.

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Ian Murray

There's more to discover at WHSMITH.

207/120/150

Pretoria braced for long wait to see benefits as sanctions ease



Ramaphosa: comforted by IMF ban on funds

THE euphoria generated in South Africa by the lifting of American economic sanctions, and readmission to the Olympic movement and Test cricket, has given way to doubts and anxieties about what it all means. The answer in the short term is not very much.

American companies who deserted South Africa over the past five years are in no hurry to return, the African National Congress is fighting a rearguard action to preserve remaining sanctions, and local Olympic officials doubt whether South Africa will have a team at the Olympic Games in Barcelona next year.

Switzerland buoyed spirits yesterday by removing limits on capital exports,

Initial jubilation over the return to world trade and sport has given way to sober reflection on limited near-term prospects, Gavin Bell writes

and reports from Japan indicated its sanctions would be lifted within weeks. But the prevailing view is that there will be no immediate "gold rush".

Economists point out that no fewer than 26 states, 78 cities and 20 countries in the United States have imposed their own sanctions and are more likely than the federal administration to consult the ANC. They include California, which has the world's seventh-largest economy. An illustration of their

power is that South African Airways is still denied landing rights in New York.

Wayne Mitchell, the executive director of the American chamber of commerce in Johannesburg, says prospective American investors will be looking over their shoulders continually at their local governments and the ANC. Of equal concern are political violence and uncertain economic prospects. "Especially in the wake of the recent ANC conference, investors are unlikely to

make any major decisions until they have a clearer picture of the political and economic policies that will emerge. Few of them will be willing to make a move without being assured of government protection for their investments, and many cities and states may reserve judgment until they hear from the ANC," he said.

The Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut (chamber of business) says foreign investments will be inhibited by continuing political violence and unfavourable market conditions, and economists say that restraint of trade orders could be slapped on South African goods if they penetrate significantly the American market. The most optimistic predictions are

that Pretoria's ailing economy will not benefit from increased foreign earnings before February or March next year.

The mood at ANC headquarters is one of defiance. Having resolved to pursue a phased approach to sanctions, linking their withdrawal to further progress towards a multiracial government, the organisation remains firm.

Cyril Ramaphosa, the new secretary-general, draws comfort from the fact that Pretoria is still denied access to funds from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and that regional American sanctions are still in place. He says the ANC is determined to dictate the pace of their

abolition. The organisation is equally recalcitrant on sporting contacts, arguing that more needs to be done to unify racially segregated administrations and to improve facilities for non-whites. "Many urgent matters still need to be resolved," it said. "Non-racial unity in sport and equal training facilities are essential to fulfil all the conditions of the Olympic Charter."

Johan du Plessis, secretary-general of the recently formed National Olympic Committee, took the point on his return from Lausanne yesterday. "There is plenty of work to be done before we can even think about sending a team to Spain. It is impossible for me to say at

this stage whether we will have a team at the Games. Everything depends on what happens in the country between now and then, politically and on the sporting front."

Sanctions meeting: President Kaunda of Zambia said yesterday that he would call a meeting of a special committee of the Organisation of African Unity to discuss developments over sanctions as worldwide opinions continued to differ (Our Foreign Staff writes).

A government official in Harare said that the time was not right to lift economic sanctions, but Israel said it was preparing to ratify lifting its sanctions.

Leading article, page 15

Blast at allied arms depot in Kuwait injures 50 soldiers

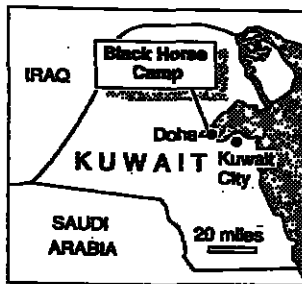
By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ABOUT 50 British and American soldiers were injured yesterday as shells exploded at an ammunition depot in Kuwait and several buildings caught fire.

Surgeons at the al-Sabah hospital, where 34 of the injured were treated, said one patient's skull was shattered by shrapnel and he was not expected to live. Three other soldiers, who had serious abdominal injuries, underwent exploratory surgery.

Military officials discounted the possibility of sabotage at the Black Horse camp in Doha, which is 12 miles from Kuwait City. They said the fire was believed to have been started by an electrical fault in one of the huge trucks that carry ammunition.

The defence ministry in London said that British soldiers had sustained only minor injuries and none was taken to hospital. There are 240 soldiers from a company of the 2nd Battalion Royal



Anglian Regiment in Kuwait, and all have been accounted for. The ammunition depot is close to the British mess hall, but it was empty at the time of the explosion.

US Staff Sergeant Judy Bradford told the Cable News Network that the American soldiers and their British and United Nations counterparts had been moved from the camp and the area had been sealed off. It was the most serious accident involving allied troops in Kuwait since the expulsion of Iraqi forces from the emirate at the end of February.

Captain Susan Strednansky,

of the defence department in Washington, said that an ammunition truck had caught fire and 155 howitzer shells had exploded. US Sergeant Rodney Lewis said: "The sound was deafening and it shook all the buildings. You could see the shrapnel shooting in the air and a lot of smoke."

Although firemen reached the blaze within minutes, their equipment was unable to cope with the exploding munitions. "It was blowing out shrapnel so we had to pull back and then boom, it went off," said one American soldier, who was taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation.

"It tossed people around as they were trying to get away. That's why you have got a lot of these guys with broken ankles, broken arms," he said. Doctors said that most of the injured would be kept in hospital overnight.

Dozens of British, American and Kuwaiti soldiers blocked the road leading to the seaford village of Doha, almost invisible behind a pall of grey smoke and blowing sand. Most of the American soldiers stationed at the base are from the US Army's 11th Armoured Cavalry Regiment, based in Fulda, Germany. Many of them were on manoeuvres in the desert when the explosion occurred.

Much of the area surrounding the peninsula camp was evacuated in case more explosions took place, but UN peacekeeping troops based nearby were not removed. The fire was brought under control about four hours after the first explosion, but demolition experts set charges around the area to explode the remaining munitions.

"They've got a bunch of stuff lying around up there and they have got to get rid of it," said Colonel John Marcel, an American embassy military liaison officer monitoring developments from a nearby checkpoint. The ammunition at the base is stored on pallets in a large open-air compound. It includes tank and artillery rounds and various types of bullets.



Sand blasters: British bomb disposal experts yesterday detonating one of the many mines laid by Iraqi forces along the beaches of Kuwait. In Washington, the Pentagon reported that in addition to the nine British soldiers killed in the Gulf war by US troops, 13 were hurt by friendly fire from Americans (Susan Elliott writes).

In its most detailed account yet of the number of allied deaths attributed to their own forces, the defence department said that the Americans also mistakenly killed 11 US soldiers. One defence official said the numbers were expected to increase slightly after further investigations.

The US army's central command headquarters in Tampa, Florida, said that friendly fire also wounded 15 American

soldiers. Military commanders, including Norman Schwarzkopf, the architect of the American military campaign, were at pains early in the allied air campaign against Iraq to tell the public that deaths from friendly fire were a common factor in modern warfare.

But the reliance of the allies on sophisticated technology, much of it used on the battlefield for the first time, has prompted the US military to pay particular attention to the number of deaths from allied weaponry. The United States reported a total of 148 troops killed in action and 458 wounded during the war between January 17 and February 28. On the British side, 24 deaths in action in the Gulf conflict have been reported.

Iraq seeks oil cash to feed children

From CHARLES BREMNER IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations yesterday considered an Iraqi plea to relax sanctions to save the lives of thousands of children, but strong resistance from Britain and the United States made it highly likely it would be rejected.

Iraq's latest request for permission to sell oil to raise money for food and medicine came in a letter to the UN Security Council on Wednesday night. If Baghdad was not allowed to put \$1.5 billion (£937 million) worth of oil immediately on the market, a "human catastrophe" was inevitable, Ahmed Hussein, the foreign minister, said in his letter.

To hammer home its message, Iraq has been showing starving children and typhoid-stricken adults in Baghdad hospitals to a UN team led by Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, special commissioner for relief operations in the Gulf.

He was due yesterday to travel with relief supplies for Shia Iraqis marooned in marshes near the Iranian border. Mr Hussein said in his UN letter that the embargo had contributed to the deaths of 6,000 children from disease and malnutrition. He cited a study by a team from Harvard University which said 170,000 Iraqi children would die by the end of the year if UN sanctions were not lifted.

However, America and Britain are adamant that President Saddam Hussein must comply with a series of demands before they will consider relaxing the embargo on all trade, including oil sales, imposed by the security council after the Kuwait invasion.

On Wednesday, President Bush said he wants to continue full economic sanctions. He accused Saddam of siphoning off humanitarian food and medicine to officials of his Baath party based in his home town of Tikrit.

The British first want Iraq to give precise information on the gold and cash it holds in reserve. Most important, the allies want to bring maximum pressure on Saddam to yield nuclear equipment and material which they believe he has still concealed.

Paris pact clears way for ties with Iran

Tehran - Iran said yesterday that it had resolved a two-year, billion-dollar dispute with France, removing the last obstacle to political and economic ties with Paris.

The Iranian news agency, Irna, said agreement in principle on a final protocol was announced after two days of talks in Tehran by the deputy foreign minister, Mahmoud Vaezi, and Francois Scherer, secretary-general of the French foreign ministry. It said the pact would be ready for approval by the two foreign ministers soon. In Paris, the foreign ministry said a settlement was expected in the next few days, clearing the way for a visit to Tehran by President Mitterrand.

The dispute concerned repayment of a \$1 billion (£625 million) loan the late Shah of Iran made in 1974 to the French Atomic Energy Commission for its Eurodif consortium. France repaid a total of \$630 million by 1988. In addition to the balance, Tehran has claimed another \$1 billion in interest. (Reuters)

Pakistan hardens nuclear line

Islamabad - Mian Nawaz Sharif, Pakistan's prime minister, has said that Pakistan was ready to go to war if its nuclear sites were attacked. He told reporters his government had asked the armed forces to strengthen security to protect nuclear installations.

Mr Sharif did not mention a specific country but Pakistani newspapers have recently speculated that a group of Israelis in Indian-ruled Kashmir may have been preparing to attack a secret Pakistani nuclear facility at Kahuta, near Islamabad. India says the six Israelis, who were abducted last month by secessionist Muslim militants, were tourists. (Reuters)

China seeks aid

Peking - For the first time in its communist history, China appealed for international aid as floods left millions homeless and outbreaks of malaria and dysentery increased. Disaster relief officials said \$200 million (£117.6 million) was needed for emergency supplies and reconstruction.

Korea go-ahead

Seoul - South Korea will agree to a North Korean proposal that high-level talks between the two countries, suspended for seven months, should be resumed, according to a government spokesman. He indicated that the suggested Pyongyang venue and starting date of August 27 would be acceptable. (Reuters)

Crash kills 13

Birmingham, Alabama - A commuter plane of L'Express airline crashed in a residential area here, killing 13 passengers and injuring four people on the ground. It hit houses and burst into flames as it approached the airport in a thunderstorm. The pilot and a passenger survived and were taken to hospital. (AFP)

Moon sought

Bangkok - Arrest warrants have been issued for the Rev Sun Myung Moon, the Korean-born founder of the Unification Church whose followers are known as Moonies, and his wife for allegedly inciting criminal activity. (Reuters)

Quayle mourns

Franklin, Indiana - Martha Pulliam, Vice-President Quayle's grandmother and a former newspaper publisher, has died at the age of 100. During the 1988 presidential campaign, Mr Quayle said that she had inspired him during his youth. (AFP)

Congress vote irks Peking

From REUTERS IN PEKING

CHINA reacted angrily yesterday to a vote by the American House of Representatives to cut its preferential trade status next year and attach conditions on human rights and other issues to its renewal.

"This is a gross interference in China's internal affairs which the Chinese government firmly rejects," Duan Jin, a foreign ministry spokesman said. Attaching conditions on human rights would be absolutely unacceptable to China. "We would like to tell the US Congress to stop this kind of activity which interferes in China's internal affairs and hurts the feelings of the Chinese people." If China's most favoured nation status, worth billions of dollars in trade each year, were taken away there would be a "serious retrogression" in relations, Mr Duan said.

The House voted 233-204 on Wednesday to pass a resolution overturning President Bush's extension of China's privileged trading status. The vote was largely symbolic since the Senate was not expected to join in disapproving the trade status.

Lawyer reads last rites over British imperialism

TORN between the West and the suffocating embrace of the motherland, these are days of painful schizophrenia for the Chinese of Hong Kong.

In barely six years, Peking will restore its rule over the Fragrant Harbour and reverse years of shame. In the meantime millions who fled to Hong Kong from China's bittersweet legacy must commit themselves either to the men of Tiananmen Square or the uncertainty of Western countries whose economic condition offers little in the way of opportunity for these arch-capitalists.

In the 16th-floor office of her legal practice at the very heart of one of the oldest and most successful colonial trading houses, Yin Chu Liu epitomises the difficulties of the decisions ahead and the emotional settlement of accounts that is already dividing Chinese families, pushing up the suicide and divorce rates, and leaving many older people abandoned to their fate in Hong Kong.

Miss Liu, of indeterminate age, studied English literature at St Anne's College, Oxford, and did seven years' law research at Harvard. She alternates the fire of a Red Guard with the pert innocence of a Marilyn Monroe when she

Hong Kong Chinese must choose between a hated regime or taking a gamble in the West, says David Watts

knows she occupies the moral high ground. There is no doubt about the pleasure she derives from seeing the British get their comeuppance.

Miss Liu sits on the People's National Congress in Peking as a Hong Kong representative and is scorned by many Hong Kong people as a Peking stooge. That she may be. She claims to have fed significant information to Chinese negotiators as they prepared the new airport agreement in a long-running battle with British negotiators. But Peking equally wants to keep her at arm's length. No Peking official has forgotten the day she called for a minute's silence in memory of the dead of Tiananmen Square as the People's National Congress opened.

"We didn't have any enemies until the British came," she recalls, delving deep into the well-springs of Chinese resentment. "Not until Cap-

tain Elliot burned and killed his way into the capital. We don't forget these things. We have a sense of justice," she says, her eyes burning behind blue-rimmed glasses.

"We know the English better than your so-called Chinese experts know China. We dream in two languages." The British had been up to their old tricks again in the negotiations over Hong Kong, she claimed, trying to push for its continued internationalisation under the noses of the Chinese government.

"Does the United States think it can win by its aggressive cross-border politics and call it human rights? No." Standing over a hapless personification of British imperialism, she adds: "You'll find you can recover a bit of your past glories if you don't push unfairly."

"The recovery of Hong Kong means the recovery of national *zhan*. We're about to come out of the fog of foreign oppression. You left a lot of bad will. The joint agreement (between Britain and China) for the return of Hong Kong is an opportunity to turn bad will into good will. You don't have to pay your debts. You can build on all your wrongs and make them into successes."

Festivities in Mongolia eclipse economic woes

From CATHERINE SAMPSON IN ULAN BATOR, MONGOLIA

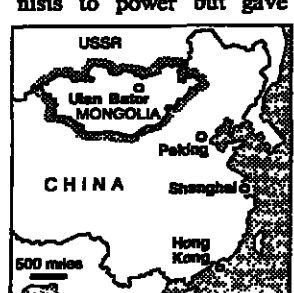
MONGOLIA celebrated the 70th anniversary of its communist revolution yesterday in a display of drinking, betting and machismo in spite of the economic problems facing the country after abandoning the certainties of socialism.

Food shortages, industrial closures and growing unemployment were forgotten as Mongolians went to the races. Arguments over issues such as the privatisation of industry paled into insignificance as 200 out of 800 horses were disqualified for jumping the starter's gun in the 25-mile six-year-olds race.

It is not just the horses that are six years old; six is about the average age of the boys and girls who ride them, displaying the toughness of the descendants of Genghis Khan. Winning or losing is celebrated with fermented mare's milk. Mongolians are not unnerved by food queues.

The anniversary of the Mongolian revolution traditionally starts with a military march in the central square, and during the day

turns into the annual Nadam festival of the "three main sports" - archery, wrestling and horse racing. In the past, the National Day has been a showcase for the communist Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party. Just under a year ago the country's first multiparty elections returned the communists to power but gave



democratic parties a voice in parliament. Yesterday there was the usual military parade but there were no party banners. Instead, a group of Mongolian John Lennon lookalikes sang Beatles songs as political leaders mingled with the crowds in the central square. "The high mood of Nadam has

given some relief to people's concerns," Radnasambureljin Gonchigdorj, the deputy president, said over the strains of *Imagine*.

Economic worries, however, lay under the surface. "Some new items appeared in the shops for Nadam, but not sufficient," said Mrs Lhamsumuren, a housewife. "I had to queue for two or three hours for eggs and sausages." These days she prepares less food for her family. "I am not angry and they are not angry. I understand it will get better, as it does not affect just me, it affects everyone."

A newspaper poll found that only 30 per cent of the people questioned have confidence in the government, and 40 per cent thought it was not satisfactory. Yet there have been no mass demonstrations, and when political leaders took part in an archery competition, the crowd was delighted.

The economic situation has prompted fears that government hardliners will try to stage a comeback and President Ochirbat called for a national renaissance.

Ruffling the stuffed shirts

Kate Muir talks to Janet Street-Porter about money and making programmes for the BBC

Fortysomethings come in two types: those whose popular record collection fell by the classical wayside in the early Seventies with a last gasp of Bob Dylan and Queen, and those who kept on buying. Janet Street-Porter is in the latter category. Without question she is au fait with Vanilla Ice and Niggers With Attitude and the Pet Shop Boys. She is probably the only BBC executive with the Ultraviolet CD *I wish that* on her desk. It is hard to imagine the future director general, John Birt, for instance, in possession of such an object. And would he, as Ms Street-Porter did recently, spend his Saturday evening at a nightclub in Middlesbrough?

Presumably Mr Birt, 46, employed Ms Street-Porter, 44, so that he could avoid such activity himself. She is a trend-spotter in a BBC which often feels safer with the values of the train-spotter. Although six feet tall, her eyes are at punter level. As the head of youth and entertainment programmes, she gets her ideas from the streets, while other executives get them second-hand from newspapers.

For that reason, the old guard is less than keen on her, and horrified by the growth of her power in the BBC, from a tiny youth brief with almost no money three years ago, to a £9 million budget and 19 programmes fast invading mainstream television.

The Street-Porter style of management — using a minuscule and overworked permanent staff to oversee short-term contracts and independent production — has made her lean budget go far. This has the twofold effect of making Mr Birt, her mentor, happy, while bringing unease to the financially blameworthy departments around her.

Unease turned to apoplexy earlier this year when Ms Street-Porter was tipped as the new head of arts and music. The right-wing Monday Club wrote to warn the present director general of her unsuitability. She was a "promoter and purveyor of downmarket youth sub-culture programmes", they said.

To their relief Ms Street-Porter did not get the arts job, primarily because she did not apply for it.

"The reason I came here was to make my own programmes, not to take over someone else's." Her programmes are quite unlike anyone else's, and she likes it that way. She treads an uneasy line between the pioneering and the appalling, beginning with *Network 7* on Chan-



Leading edge: Janet Street-Porter says her image "isn't bland, isn't cosy, isn't run-of-the-mill. It's a bit edgy — people like you or loathe you"

nel 4, and expanding into the *Def II* slot on the BBC, and later aiming for an older audience with gems such as *Style Trial*.

Ms Street-Porter has more style than taste. This is reflected in her much-photographed wardrobe. It also explains the uneasy fascination of her programmes. She is the only BBC head of department whom ordinary telly-watchers can name. The rest are just received pronunciation in a suit, but Janet Street-Porter is a cockney accent, with teeth and glasses.

"Even when I stopped wearing brightly coloured glasses people who had just met me still wrote that I had them," says Ms Street-Porter, making up for her unobtrusive see-through frames with a glow-in-the-dark pink furry top, and slim green silk trousers. Oddly, she changes into a little black dress for the benefit of the photographer, and looks about half her age.

She also thinks like someone half her age, but like all the favoured Birt babies, she is startlingly efficient and understands that television nowadays is about money first, and art second.

She knew that when she gave up work in front of the camera as a

chat-show host in the early Seventies. "The other night in Middlesbrough three blokes in their thirties came up to me and said: 'You're that woman who was once on television, aren't you?' People don't forget me — I suppose in Britain at the time there were very few definite women. My image isn't bland, isn't cosy, isn't run-of-the-mill. It's a bit edgy — people either like you or loathe you but they never forget."

Taxi drivers in particular feel sorry for her, she says, not being on television any more, "but I'm thrilled to be a real creator of programmes and not a neurotic presenter wondering where my next job was coming from".

Ms Street-Porter is definitely creative, and this is an example of how it works. Driving past Madame Tussauds, she notices not only the kids, but their parents and grandparents are all dressed exactly the same — in shell suits (shiny track suits) and trainers.

Unlike most normal people, who would merely register horror that the populace actually liked wearing green, purple and pink simultaneously, Ms Street-Porter promptly

gave birth to a programme concept. "You see everybody in the country is sporting a tracksuit, it's completely brilliant, and even if they're not fit they like to look as if they are, and then there is that endless obsession with Callanetics and hang-gliding, so we got the idea for *Good Sport*, about sport and leisure rather than events and results. So we pitched it to Jonathan [Powell, controller of BBC1] to get money for a pilot, pitched it back from audience research, and pitched it to BBC Enterprises for some extra money."

Enough pitching there for a small baseball game. Ms Street-Porter, behind her ditsy exterior, is an operator. Describing her next project gets her wriggling in her chair with enthusiasm in her office in a BBC bunker which is decorated with her own framed posters.

"It's a soap opera," by which she does not mean *Neighbours*, but a classical opera, in soap-sized ten-minute chunks, in this case Heinrich Marschner's *The Vampire*. "We wanted a simple story we could easily rewrite in parts, and this has a vampire seducing three virgins in 24 hours, so it's got a lot going for it and it's incredibly evil. We're updating it

to work in central London now, and instead of noblemen and peasants, it's going to be about businessmen and secretaries."

Who else would say such things with a straight face? But Ms Street-Porter is fond of taking risks — she can be blamed or credited with creating the age of "infotainment" with *Reportage* and *The Rough Guide*, where news and facts were dressed up with fast cuts, wonky camera angles, glow-in-the-dark graphics and subtle overkill. Her youthful presenters were far from professional — the women wore sunglasses indoors, the men wore make-up. The programmes were a critical and popular success. The graphic style influenced the rest of television.

Ms Street-Porter is satisfied with her role as maverick to the stuffed shirts. "Ooh yes, they tried to keep me out for years at the BBC. But independent companies are worse. The things I could tell you about the men running them."

Fortunately for our legal bills, she refrains. "Being with an independent would be like being in an empty parking lot with one Fiat, whereas here I can have two parking lots filled with cars."

Homes where the heart was

Barnardos is preparing for the biggest party of its 125-year life, as old boys and girls head for a family reunion

Fifteen hundred Barnardos boys and girls are expecting an exuberant reunion with their brothers and sisters on Saturday, the first ever mass party since Dr Barnardo started his homes 125 years ago.

There will be a brass band and a big iced cake with candles in a marquee on the green at Barkingside, near Ilford in Essex, the Barnardos headquarters. Around the green are cottages with names such as Beehive and Myrtle where, until the 1970s, orphaned and abandoned children lived with a "mother" and the security of being part of the Barnardos family for ever. The cottages are offices now.

"Once in Barnardos you always belong," says Colette Bradford, the head of the team of 15 after-care workers. "We get about 100 letters a month, people telling us all about their lives and families. This job's got a lot of heart in it."

Nellie Plumb from Enfield, Middlesex is going to be there with her friend Rose, to take another peep at Myrtle Cottage. Orphaned with four sisters at seven, she remembers a happy childhood. "They were strict, but they were kind to us. We had bread and dripping for breakfast, and porridge when your turn came round, and if it was your birthday you had a boiled egg and bread and marmalade."

Though for ever linked in the public mind with providing succour for orphans, nearly all of the homes are closed now. Instead Barnardos helps some 20,000 children a year by finding foster and adoptive parents. The few remaining homes are for those with special problems.

This national get-together of all the "children" down the years — from Harry Smith, aged 90, flying from Canada specially for it, to the last from the Seventies homes — comes

just as Barnardos is taking its next step forward.

In September, Barnardos is opening new offices to counsel families with parents or children who have Aids. One of its urgent tasks, says Carol Lindsay Smith, the development officer for the project, is to work out with dying parents how their children should be cared for.

"Some parents are desperate. They come to Barnardos because we are independent — they are afraid if they go to the social services, their children may be taken into care."

Another service that keeps the after-care team busy is tracing blood relatives for Barnardos children. "In the Seventies we might have had a hundred requests for information in a year," Ms Bradford says. "Now we have about 1,500. We are very careful about preparing them for meeting relatives they've never seen."

Sydney Bracken, aged 47, is one Barnardos boy who is going to the party with photographs of the blood brothers and sisters he found just 18 months ago. He was the child of a love affair after his mother, who already had two sons, was mistakenly told her husband was killed during the war. The returning soldier could not accept someone else's baby, so Mr Bracken was taken to Barnardos.

"One day I went to Barkingside with my wife and I started asking questions," Mr Bracken says. "Three days later they telephoned and said yes, my parents were dead, but did I know I had brothers and sisters? There were two sisters born after me. We met at my sister's. She just put her arms around me and that was it."

YVONNE THOMAS
© Times Newspapers Ltd 1991



Father figure: Dr Thomas Barnardo in about 1900

Putting God back into godparents

Couples who propose friends as their children's godparents can soon expect to be quizzed more closely by the vicar as to their suitability for the job

GODPARENTS have had a charmed image ever since Cinderella's godmother wangled that invitation to the ball. This Saturday, however, when the Church of England's General Synod meets in York, some fairy godmothers could come down to earth.

Among the subjects for debate at the synod will be baptism and the nature of the suitable godparent. According to canon B23 of church law, a godparent must be both baptised and confirmed (although not necessarily into the church that the child is being raised in). A vicar can, however, use his judgment to waive the confirmation requirement.

In practice, however, not all vicars bother to ask well in advance if a godparent is baptised. "Also they usually come from some distance, so the vicar isn't likely to meet them beforehand and check their suitability," says Steve Jenkins, the Church of England press officer.

Some vicars take the subject seriously. The Rev Audrey Cozens from Westcliff-on-Sea in Essex had to point out the difficulties to a couple hoping for a Muslim godparent. "I've also turned down godparents who haven't been baptised. It's total nonsense to have

godparents who aren't baptised — rather like proposing someone for a club of which you're not a member yourself."

The Right Rev Colin Buchanan, the president of the Movement for the Reform of Infant Baptisms, sees godparents as "lightweight frills."

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godparents who aren't baptised — rather like proposing someone for a club of which you're not a member yourself."

The nature of the parents is much more crucial. But when a couple come to me about christening, I always say 'Tell me about your godparents and their commitments. Why do you think they're suitable?' I wouldn't worry if someone

turned up like a punk rocker, providing they were Christians."

There is always a temptation to choose godparents simply because they are friends. Roger Cozens, the deputy secretary of the Mothers' Union (and married to

over? Back to canon B23, which states that godparents shall "faithfully fulfil their responsibilities by their care for the child" and by "setting an example of their own Godly living". Mr Jenkins says: "Historically, godparents brought up children if their parents died to save them from going to the orphanage. Nowadays, it's more about taking an interest in the child's faith." However, Mr Cozens admits that very few "actually ring up and say 'Is little Johnny going to Sunday school?'"

Parents often have their own ideas of what constitutes a good godparent. Anita Hedges is an agnostic, but because her husband, Cliff, is a practising Christian, she looked long and hard for "someone who took heed of Christian principles when living his life". The Hedges, from Guildford, finally chose one couple who went to church and another who did not. "All of them see the children regularly," Mrs Hedges says, "and when we stay with the church-going set, they go to a service with them, which provides a good helping of the Christian faith."

What is the role of a godparent after the party is

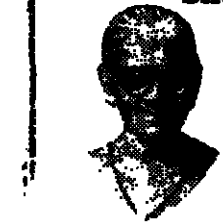
Audrey Cozens, says that "for many people it's a mark of appreciation, to show friends that they're liked and respected. The social aspect can be overplayed."

What is the role of a godparent after the party is



Fairy godmother: but how do real ones measure up?

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THE INSIDE STORY

GALLERIES: LONDON

Dealer who came up trumps

John Russell Taylor on a show honouring a dealer rather than an artist, plus a history of the first 60 years of the Royal Academy

When the bouquets are being handed out, art dealers seldom receive an annual award. Artists, critics and the public unite in complaining about them. More damningly, dealers complain about one another. Only now, as recession bites in the auction houses, are people wondering whether dealers may, after all, have their uses. In this context it is illuminating to recall the career of Ambroise Vollard.

That opportunity comes with a remarkable show at Agnew's, devoted to the period from 1895 to 1913 when he was organiser, encourager and ultimately publisher of painters-turned-printmakers. He arrived in Paris from Réunion in 1890, intending to become a lawyer. But at once he was led astray.

He was, increasingly, gripped with a consuming passion for the relatively unregarded prints that some of the great artists of the day were making, usually as a commercial sideline or to oblige a friend with a poster. In 1893 the first important step towards formal appreciation of these prints was taken, with the inaugural issue of *L'Estampe Originale*, a part-work that invited subscribers to regard lithographs as original works of art. Vollard began as a dealer in a tiny way, but in a year or two had moved to the Rue Lafitte, just

down the road from the Impressionists' great champion, the dealer Durand-Ruel. Uniquely among print dealers of the time, Vollard was not content merely to circulate material already in existence. He saw that there were many younger artists whose gifts naturally fitted them for the colour lithograph. All they needed was encouragement, a publisher for the prints and sometimes a basement to work in.

By offering all three, Vollard became the great impresario of the colour lithograph in France. He was particularly lucky in that the young artists with whom he had a particular affinity were the Nabis — such figures as Vuillard, Bonnard, Maurice Denis and Ker-Xavier Roussel. They were looking, even in their painting, for a "cloisonnist" style that bounded areas of flat colour with distinct outlines, as in cloisonné enamel.

This emphasis on flat patterns in colour ideally suited the lithograph. The whole group took to it. Among early triumphs were the albums by

the principals of the group, Bonnard's *Quelques Aspects de la Vie de Paris* (1895-99), Vuillard's *Paysages et Intérieurs* (1899) and Denis's *Amour* (1892-98).

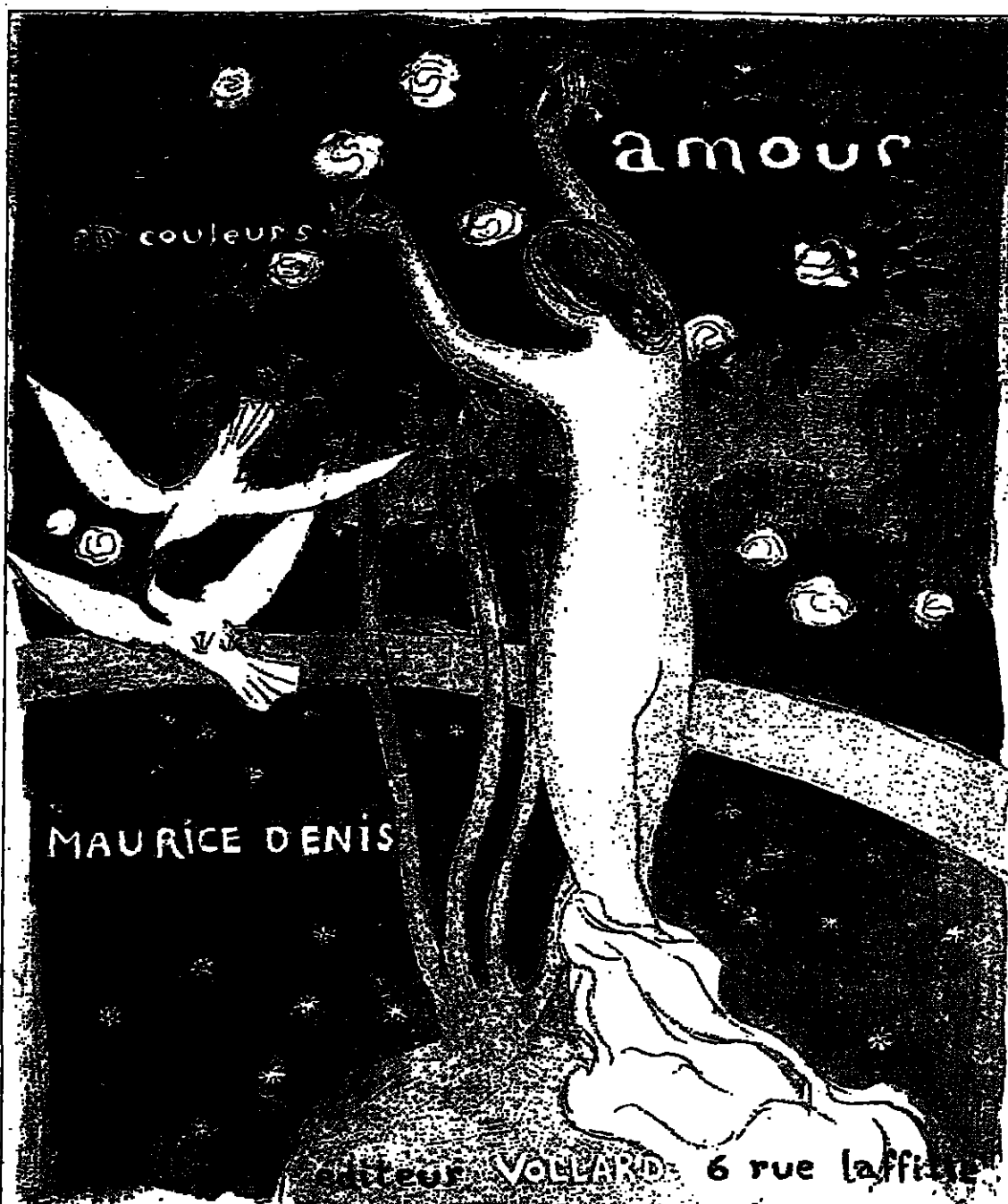
Vollard also persuaded more established artists, such as Lautrec, Renoir, Cézanne and Redon, to work with him, producing lithographs and, occasionally, other kinds of print. Agnew's show contains virtually all the separate prints published by Vollard, and all the albums. The tally is astonishing — especially as there are so few that are less than superlative.

Despite Vollard's devotion to colour, some of the most striking works are in black and white, such as Redon's 24 monochromatic lithographs for *La Tentation de Saint Antoine* and Picasso's 14 etchings and drypoints, *Salimbanques* (a graphic equivalent of his Blue and Rose period paintings of acrobats and circus performers). Less well known are the occasional lithographs by designers such as Georges de Feure and Georges Aurier. But even the most remote corners of Vollard's *Album des peintres-graveurs*, published in 1896 as the first proclamation of his intentions, still bear witness to his catholic taste. The show ends with the first illustrated Verlaire's *Parallèle* and Daphnis et Chloé, both

with lithographs by Bonnard. This was the beginning of something new, which was to preoccupy Vollard for the rest of his life and make him one of the most important creators of the modern illustrated book in France. But that is a story for another exhibition.

If dealers seldom get a good press, academics fare little better. The Royal Academy has not been doing badly of late. Reaction to the present Summer Exhibition was predictably stuffy, but praise has been heaped on the new Sackler Galleries, and its opening exhibition, "The Favourite Landscape". In the midst of this excitement the other new show — which reflects much more closely on the Academy's history — has gone virtually unmentioned.

The show, in the old Private Rooms, is called *From Reynolds to Lawrence*, and covers the first 60 years of the Academy from works in the permanent collection. Most of the paintings and sculptures in the permanent collection are, Diploma pieces or, for founder members like



An early triumph for Vollard: the cover for Maurice Denis's album of lithographs, *Amour*, 1892-98

Reynolds who did not have to provide one, are works given by the artists or their heirs.

For those who are used to Diploma pictures as primarily large and dingy canvases stuck unceremoniously on the old stairs to the old Diploma Gallery (now swept away), this display will come as a revelation. Sometimes, of course, there is some mystery as to why an artist showed his talents off to advantage. Why did Turner fancy *Dolbadern Castle*, a grim picture at best, or Constable favour the overworked picture at present in the Constable

show at the Tate? On the other hand, Fuseli's *Thor Battering the Midgard Serpent* is a highly characteristic and dramatic work, and lesser-known pieces, such as Jean François Rigaud's *Samson and Delilah*, prove unexpectedly spirited.

The sculptures, mostly long unseen, are striking testimony to the vitality of the classical tradition in England: Thomas Banks's *The Falling Titan*, Westmacott's *Jupiter and Ganymede* and Agostino Carlini's maquette for an equestrian statue of George III will shake up a lot of received opinions. True, some strain is occasionally

to be observed when natural miniaturists and intimists try to pull themselves to the heights by their bootstraps. But the evidence of the last room, which contains copies of the masters and anatomical mouldings used as learning tools, suggests that, however hide-bound these teaching techniques may seem now, they produced results.

Ambroise Vollard, Agnew's, 43 Old Bond Street, W1 (071-629 4359). Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30 (Thurs 6.30), to July 26. From Reynolds to Lawrence. Royal Academy, Piccadilly, W1 (071-439 7438). Daily 10-6, indefinitely.

RECORDS: ROCK

Committed and caring rockers

THE Dan Reed Network, five reconstructed rockers from Portland, Oregon, have forged a reputation for splicing power chords to funk rhythms, and singing less about getting their lemons squeezed than about the need for a new world order based on notions of peace, harmony and "positivism".

Building on these catholic foundations, the Network's third album, *The Heat*, is their most outlandishly versatile work yet, a riot of highly accomplished performances that persistently goes against the grain of the heavy rock stereotype. On the fringes are oddities such as the spectral metal version of Pink Floyd's "Money", and a scratchy pseudo-delta blues arrangement of "Cull Out". At the heart of the matter are bombastic surges of melodic rock such as "Love Don't Work That Way" and "They Will Be Done", the latter an impassioned if simplistic rock-rap broadside across the bows of "the leaders of the planet".

Despite its considerable merits, there is a residual sense of contrivance in the way that this caring, sharing, catch-all collection manages so effortlessly to reconcile extremes. It is noisy but clever, hard yet sensitive, a tonic for headbanger and hippie alike; after a while you start longing for it simply to nail its musical colours to the mast one way or the other.

No such problems of identity attach to Chris Whitley's intriguing debut, *Living With the Law*, which he uses to stunning effect. Many of the songs — "Dust Radio", "Big Sky Country" — drift like sand in a heat haze, a brushed snare bobbing fitfully across the surreal picture like clumps of tumbleweed. Then a number such as "I Forget You Every Day" or "Long Way Around" with its rumbling interlocked riffs, will suddenly flare up like a sun spot, and great streaks of startlingly overladen noise are sent howling into space. An album of intense, brooding mystique, *Living With the Law* is a grainy masterpiece.

DAVID SINCLAIR

ROCKERS

● Rod Stewart, recent recipient of the Nordoff-Robbins Silver Clef Award, given by the music-therapy organisation, for his "outstanding services to the British music industry", has added three more shows to the never-ending European leg of his *Vagabond Heart* tour. Having already played to a quarter of a million people in the UK this year, he is now booked to appear at NEC, Birmingham (021-780 4133) July 23; G-Mex, Manchester (061-832 9000) July 26; and Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney (010 3531 60 000) July 27.

● Lloyd Cole confirms a British tour for the autumn. Edinburgh Playhouse (031-557 2590) October 18; Apollo, Manchester (061-236 9922) October 19; Sheffield City Hall (0742 735295) October 20; Royal Centre, Nottingham (0602 482 826) October 22; Guildhall, Portsmouth (0705 624355) October 23; Hammersmith Odeon,

London W6 (081-748 4081) October 25; Aston Villa Leisure Centre, Birmingham (021-328 4884) October 26.

● Yousou N'Dour, Ruthless Rap Assassins, Kats and Anna McGarrigle, Marta Sebestyen & Musicals, African Headcharge and Toumani Diabate are among the line-up for the WOMAD Holiday Weekend at Morecambe Bay, Lancashire (0524 582667) August 23-26.

● US stadium-rock veterans Foreigner play in unusually reduced circumstances when they visit the Marquee, London WC2 (071-437 6603) on Monday July 15. It will be the first British show to feature new vocalist Johnny Edwards. The band plans to return for arena-size dates later in the year.

ARTS REVIEWS

London and Regional Theatre

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YORK EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Plucky numbers

The official theme of this year's York Early Music Festival may be "Gods, Dreams and Fancies" but its mascot is surely Orpheus, the original lyricist. Presumably oblivious to his grisly fate, pluckers and singers of every description have been scrambling to prove themselves more Orphean than Orpheus. Two have enjoyed conspicuous success, each coming from a base in Cologne: Benjamin Rack Bagby, an American balladeer of Anglo-Danish extraction, and the German lutenist Konrad Junghänel.

But the real god on these occasions is, of course, Authenticity, and many are the sins committed in his name. The true uses of Bagby's chosen instrument, the lute, though biblically authenticated, are as lost in the mists of time as the origins of *Beowulf*, the Anglo-Saxon epic whose first quarter he vividly recreated. That neatly cut the ground from under the purring, cat-like, around the fingerboard, and his right grasping the strings as if pouncing on a prey, Junghänel still managed an unhurried grace even at the most demanding tempos. Here, as in *Beowulf*, one could hardly doubt the numinous presence of Orpheus himself. After these two, there is no looking back.

MARTIN DREYER

No other film festival has a site to equal Jerusalem's. From the terraces of the Cinéma-thèque, lawns sweep down into the valley of Hinnon, where — according to the Old Testament — the prophet Ezekiel saw the bones spring to life. Mount Zion and the ancient city wall rise up beyond.

The associations of the place are not only biblical. In recent memory the valley was a bloody no-man's-land between the two parts of the divided city. The Cinéma-thèque was created out of old ruined buildings through the single-minded determination of its founders and directors, Wim and Lia Van Leer.

Every Israeli has a story, and history is more concentrated here than in most other places in the world. Films can take a colour from the context of a festival. Though the Jerusalem programme is international and broadly catholic, its films invariably offer a specially vivid reflection of the Jewish experience.

Films and film-makers that might ordinarily not even be thought of as Jewish take a different complexion here. In Cannes, David Mamet's new film *Homicide* could pass as a quirky variant on the police thriller. In the Jerusalem context it appears as an anguished exploration of Jewish identity. The story tells how a rough-and-tumble cop, working on a force steeped in racism, finds himself investigating the racist killing of an old Jewish lady, and begins painfully to recognise his own loss of roots.

Jewish themes were inadmissible in Soviet cinema until perestroika; and Leonid Gorovets's *Ladies' Tailor* is the first breakthrough as a wholly Jewish film with mixed Russian and Yiddish dialogue. The story is set in Kiev in the autumn of 1941, as Ukrainian Jews are being systematically rounded up for extermination at Babi Yar. The elderly tailor and his turbulent family are spending the final days in their old home, together with the Russian family that has been allocated the house after their departure.

In this remarkably accomplished first film, Gorovets captures the oppressiveness of the crowded house, the sense of unknown but terrible impending fate, and the tensions of race, class and politics. He deliberately uses untranslated Yiddish to convey the irritation to the Jews' uncomprehending Russian neighbours. Gorovets made the film

Celluloid sights for ancient sites

David Robinson finds unlikely themes at the Jerusalem Film Festival



Simplistic, yet startling: Eran Riklis's *Cup Final*

against the background of a revival of racism in the Ukraine: "We shot and edited the film under war conditions," he says. "Kiev was full of rumours about possible pogroms." Immediately after finishing the film earlier this year, he emigrated to Israel and now lives in Tel Aviv.

The Cinéma-thèque and the festival are a significant centre of liberal and humanist sentiment, and progressive politicians such as Simon Peres and Teddy Kollek, the redoubtable octogenarian mayor of Jerusalem, are regularly to be seen there. Peres was prominent at the premiere of a new Israeli film, Eran Riklis's *Cup Final*.

World Cup score. The theme is simple, but Riklis avoids obvious characterisations: the PLO group includes all sorts, killers and fanatics as well as less violent idealists.

The range of Jewish subjects in films from around the world is astonishing. From Germany, Joerg Graser's *Abraham's Gold* is a contemporary story about an old man with a sordid Holocaust secret. From Canada, Deepa Mehta's charming *Sam and Me* relates the knish of two outsiders, an old Jewish immigrant and a young man just arrived from India.

From America, *Black to the Promised Land*, by Madeleine Ali, records the adventures of a gang of high-spirited black children from New York who spend three months on a kibbutz. From Sweden, Kjell Grede's *Good Evening Mr Wallenberg* dramatises (rather ineffectually) the work and death of Raoul Wallenberg. From Czechoslovakia, Karel Kachyna's *The Last Butterfly* stars Tom Courtenay as a mime required to entertain the children of the Terezin concentration camp, as a public relations exercise for the Red Cross.

A Franco-German co-production, Agnieszka Holland's *Europa, Europa* tells the true story of Salomon Perel, who as a boy posed as a Russian and then lived under Nazi occupation in constant terror that his circumcision would betray him. Perel himself, now living in Tel Aviv, appears in person at the end of the film. From France, too, came Christian de Chalonge's dramatisation of the grisly career of Dr Marcel Periot, who robbed and murdered dozens of Jews on the pretext of sheltering them from the Nazis.

Inevitably, the great fascination for the visitor is to experience such re-enactments of Jewish history in the special context of Jerusalem. They represent, though, only part of a programme notable for its variety and including retrospectives of Visconti, Roger Corman and Chen Kaige. Corman and Chen were both conspicuously present at the festival. Remarkably, considering its grave recession and dire predictions for the future, British films made the best showing of any national cinema, with no fewer than 13 offerings, including Derek Jarman's *The Garden* and Mike Leigh's *Life is Sweet*.

Factory firsts

OPERA Factory will be resident at the South Bank Centre for the next three years. Its plans for the Queen Elizabeth Hall, announced yesterday, include notable premieres: Philip Glass's *The Flower of Youth* (September 1992) and Iannis Xenakis's *The Bacchae* (1993). Later will come new operas from Nigel Osborne, Mark-Anthony Turnage and Aribert Reimann.

Home thoughts

SIR Eduardo Paolozzi returned to his home town on Tuesday to attend the unveiling of a work commissioned to stand in front of Edinburgh's Roman Catholic cathedral. Passers-by were initially startled by the immense, dislocated hand and foot that now preside over a busy roundabout. An exhibition, focusing on the cultural contribution of Italian-Scots, has just opened at the National Gallery of Scotland.



Paolozzi in Edinburgh: Royal Library in Edinburgh, with Paolozzi prominently featured.

Last chance...

THE key lines have not run smoothly for Mary Rylance's outdoor *Tempest*, touring the magic spots of England in what began as the wettest summer for years. But the elements have cheered up for the season at the Shakespeare Globe Theatre site on Bankside. Final performances are tonight, Saturday and Sunday at 7.30pm; Saturday's matinee at 2pm (071-379 4444).

RICHARD LONG

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TATE GALLERY

BARCLAYS

As the world's leaders make their way to London for the latest round of G7 talks, *Times* writers set the scene

The world circus comes to town

Michael Binyon describes how a cosy economic summit grew and grew into the biggest diplomatic jamboree for statesmen, journalists and assorted hangers-on

A fireside chat in Paris, to discuss the turmoil in the currency markets, marked its beginnings. Sixteen years later it has become the most important annual meeting in the world: a well-rehearsed and carefully stage-managed extravaganza to chart a course for political and economic stability around the globe. The Group of Seven meeting has supplanted the superpower summits as the forum where the fate of the world is decided.

G7 has long outgrown the cosy gathering that met in Rambouillet palace. Each of the world leaders arriving in London this weekend will bring several planeloads of ministers, advisers, interpreters, press spokesmen, protocol chiefs, valets and security guards. Almost 4,000 journalists will fill the Queen Elizabeth Centre, commandeered as a press centre and stuffed with banks of telephones, television monitors, mobile studios and briefing centres. Communiqués, speeches and press kits will be distributed by the ton. The official programme and protocol guide fills more than 100 pages.

Fish farms will be emptied to provide enough Scotch salmon, half a ton of beef will be roasted to feed the press alone, and strawberries and cream, seafood and wine will be consumed in quantities that rival Henley and Wimbledon. A massive security operation will secure the streets of London, thousands of police will attempt to unblock the expected limousine jams, and embassies, taxis, caterers and tourist information centres will be working overtime to cope with the invasion. Kew Gardens, London theatres and the Stoke Mandeville hospital are being spruced up for a programme of visits by the leaders' wives.

World attention to the economic summit has grown relentlessly since President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing first invited the leaders of Britain, West Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States to Paris in 1975. The following year the Canadians joined, and made it seven. (The European Community is also represented by the president of the commission and the president of the Council of Ministers.) This year a gatecrasher has arrived at the party: Mikhail Gorbachev, whose success in wangling an invitation to meet all the G7 leaders may set a precedent for regular attendance from now on.

The agenda has also moved far beyond a narrowly economic brief. It now embraces world trade, the environment, drugs, developing countries' debt, arms sales, nuclear non-proliferation and the creation of market economies in former communist countries. This year three more themes have been added: the Middle East, the collapsing Soviet economy and the turmoil in Yugoslavia.

Every year the spectacle and the pomp grows, as the host country tries to establish its turn in the chair as the decisive turning point in world affairs. President Mitterrand coupled the G7 with the bicentenary of the French revolution; President Bush laid on a

rodeo and a Texan barbecue; John Major is inviting his guests to the Tower of London to dine in the room where Anne Boleyn spent her last days, inspect the Crown Jewels and witness the ceremony of the keys. The Queen's banquet at Buckingham Palace will be followed by military bands, a laser show and fireworks.

For weeks, senior civil servants preparing the three-day meeting — known as sherpas — have been flying across continents to draw up an agenda, produce briefing papers and coordinate issues individual leaders want to raise. Mr Major's chief coordinator went to Moscow to explain to Mr Gorbachev the niceties of how the Soviet leader's outline of economic reform can be dovetailed with the G7 discussion. Finance ministers have held a preliminary meeting. Foreign ministers are already working on the final communiqué. Yet the leaders themselves will not be programmed by their minders. G7 is still relatively fluid and informal. The agenda is only a guideline.

Discussions may range over the Brazilian rainforests or the latest initiatives for debt relief in the third world; they are more likely to focus on Yugoslavia or British, American and Japanese proposals to limit the export of arms to the Middle East. It is this untrammelled tour d'horizon that gives the G7 its peculiar influence.

The countries represented are those that have greater control over the issues they confront: they generate the wealth, export the arms, produce the high technology, maintain the nuclear arsenals, give the aid and embody the democratic systems that determine the course of world events. G7 is the only body where two of the world's most successful economies, Germany and Japan, have equal standing with nations that have traditionally played a more active world role. It is the forum where the nexus between economic strength and political influence is explicit. As Helmut Sonnenfeldt, a member of Gerald Ford's administration, said: "It is where economics become politics, and politics become economics."

The summit has no power to take binding decisions. But any consensus it reaches determines the atmosphere and often the outcome in executive agencies engaged in negotiation: the Uruguay Round of trade talks, the European Community or the United Nations, for example.

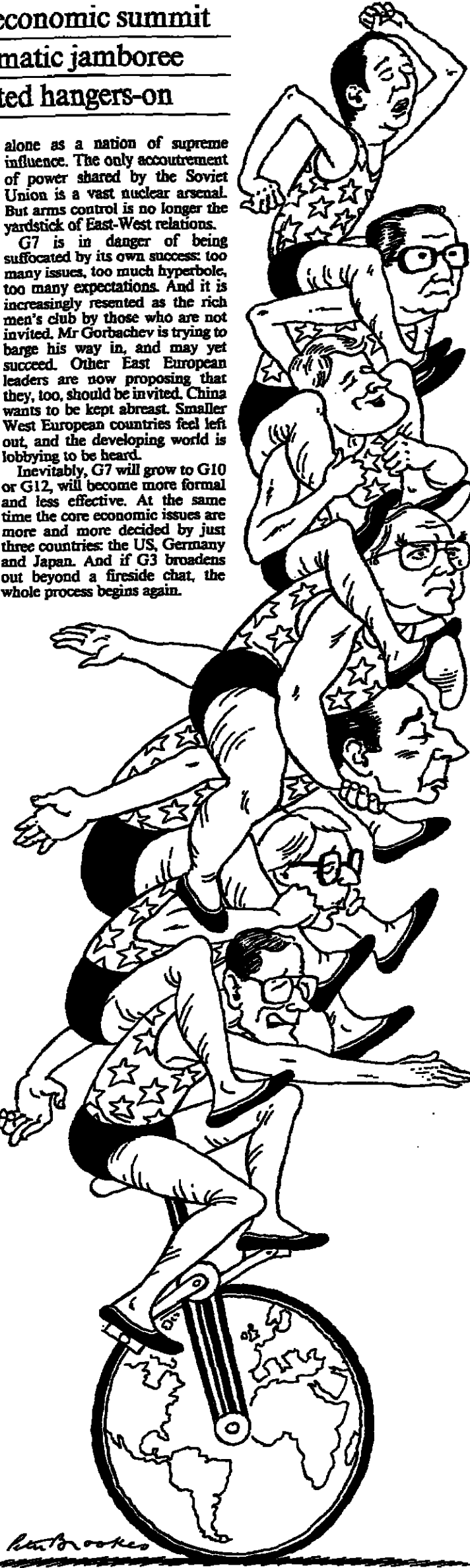
Increasingly the G7 meetings have eclipsed the summit meetings between Soviet and American leaders, which once dominated world affairs. They were landmarks in the attempts to curb superpower rivalry, limit the arms race, curb proxy wars throughout the world and boost East-West understanding. But the sudden collapse of communism throughout the world and the ending of the cold war have removed both the frisson and raison d'être of superpower summits.

Besides, it is now clear to everyone that there are no longer two superpowers. America stands

alone as a nation of supreme influence. The only accoutrement of power shared by the Soviet Union is a vast nuclear arsenal. But arms control is no longer the yardstick of East-West relations.

G7 is in danger of being suffocated by its own success: too many issues, too much hyperbole, too many expectations. And it is increasingly resented as the rich men's club by those who are not invited. Mr Gorbachev is trying to barge his way in, and may yet succeed. Other East European leaders are now proposing that they, too, should be invited. China wants to be kept abreast. Smaller West European countries feel left out, and the developing world is lobbying to be heard.

Inevitably, G7 will grow to G10 or G12, will become more formal and less effective. At the same time the core economic issues are more and more decided by just three countries: the US, Germany and Japan. And if G3 broadens out beyond a fireside chat, the whole process begins again.



Chancellor Helmut Kohl will urge the West to step up aid to the Soviet Union at the G7 summit next week. So well he might. There are still more than 300,000 Soviet troops on German soil, and their withdrawal may well depend on the survival of Mikhail Gorbachev — "Misha" as the Chancellor calls him.

Last month, the Kremlin made it known that it was slowing down the rate of troop withdrawal as the Germans, in the Kremlin's opinion, have been dilatory in fulfilling their promise of financing the housing of the troops on their return to the Soviet Union.

The pressure which Mr Gorbachev at present applies to Germany is not exactly blackmail. It might be described as grey mail. He has agreed to withdraw the troops by 1994. Formally, that agreement was unconditional, but it is now clear that he will not do so unless the Kremlin is adequately paid for withdrawing them. For Mr Gorbachev, so far, the price of withdrawal is no more than the cost of rehousing the troops. But a successor might set a higher price. Dangled is inherently elastic. Today's grey mail could be succeeded by all-out blackmail.

It seems to follow that it is in Germany's interest that the statesman who agreed to withdraw the troops by 1994 should remain in office until that date. This perception gives Mr Gorbachev his strongest card. He is the nice cop, and if he falls, a tough cop, as yet unknown, may take his place. So the nice cop must be paid in order to help him stay on the beat.

At present it seems unlikely that Mr Gorbachev can last as far as 1994 without massive aid from outside. Germany, burdened by the costs of unification, cannot, on its own, supply aid on the scale required. So the Chancellor will ask the G7 to come to the aid of the Soviet Union, and of Germany. The response of the seven is unlikely to meet Soviet expectations.

A spokesman for the German

Will Gorbachev be the spectre at the rich man's feast, asks CONOR CRUISE O'BRIEN

government, responding to the Kremlin's announcement of a slowdown in the rate of the withdrawal of troops, referred to the danger of anarchy in the Soviet Union. Anarchy is certainly one danger, but a greater one may lie in the strength of the recoil from anarchy. There is a powerful tacit coalition — including the military leadership, the KGB, and the party and state bureaucrats — which is determined that the Soviet Union shall not go the way of Yugoslavia. The Soviet Union cannot be held together without the threat of force, and the actual use of force, in some areas, to make the threat credible throughout the Kremlin's empire.

In that process, glasnost is likely to perish, and some form of neo-Stalinism to return. And the tough style of leadership that will be required to hold the Soviet Union together will be felt in international affairs also. Those who rule at home through the threat of force will be likely to reflect on what may be attainable internationally, and economically, by the same threat, coming from a bankrupt nuclear superpower. Grey mail will turn to blackmail. The price for the withdrawal of those troops will rise.

The present condition of Germany is an unparalleled and dangerous condition of strength and weakness. In many ways, Germany towers over Europe, as was symbolised by the all-German Wimbledon final. But Germany is also uniquely vulnerable without nuclear weapons of its own, and still occupied by the troops of a nuclear superpower. How long can that occupation last? What uses

may be made of it, as power in the Soviet Union shifts?

These are perhaps the greatest European questions marks for the early 1990s. It is not surprising that they have not been answered. But it does seem surprising that they should be receiving so little public attention. It is understandable, however, that Bonn does not want to talk about them, or have them talked about by Germany's friends and allies.

German foreign policy at present lacks coherence. While warning about the dangers of "anarchy" in the Soviet Union, Bonn supports the independence of Slovenia and Croatia. The break-up of Yugoslavia is now inevitable, but it may be imprudent for the Germans to be seen to be playing a leading role in fomenting it. Moscow, needing German money, is less vocal than Belgrade in its public reactions at present, but the paranoid strain in Moscow's thinking is not extinct, as the world was reminded by Prime Minister Pavlov's public rumormongers about a conspiracy of Western bankers to undermine the rouble.

Even Russians who are somewhat less fanciful than Mr Pavlov can now present Germany as renewing its *Drang nach Osten* by sowing divisions among Slavs, with the Soviet Union due to follow Yugoslavia on the road to disintegration. A neo-Stalinist restoration in Moscow could rally its followers under the sign of the unmasking of a German plot.

There has been a great deal of talk about the cold war being over, and about NATO no longer having a role. These cozy notions seem to me to rest on optimistic and unexamined assumptions about future developments in the Soviet Union. It would be wiser to postpone optimistic forecasting until the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Germany has been completed. Just for the present we should allow for the possibility that the empire may yet strike back.

The lingo of summitry

Philip Howard

The Group of Seven brings to London tomorrow its summit symposium on profit and loss. The only part of that sentence that means exactly the same in all their languages is Seven. And I am not sure about that, since the G7 now actually comprises Eight, since the EC joined the team in 1977.

Words, like trade, follow the flag. You can trace the history of a country in the story of its words.

Profit is an old word that has become too big for its boots in the past ten years of monetarist dogma. Monetarism reminded us of the practical truth that economic markets operate most effectively without government intervention. The men behind the barrows in the Portobello Road are better at calculating profit and loss and competition and how much the canny shopper will stand than civil servants and other external philosophers such as G7, whose living does not depend upon the calculation. But this does not mean all human activity is the same as what goes on in a grocer's shop.

Profit is a perfectly sound concept to apply to market activities such as running a wheel stall

on Southend pier on a hot summer bank holiday. I guess that this is probably a more difficult activity than it is reputed to be in the popular catch-phrase. But just because you can calculate the profit and loss from running a wheel stall, you cannot do it for everything. It is orange-utan nonsense to talk about profit in the wheel-stall sense when referring to schools, museums, universities, the BBC, the arts, health, the Black Watch and other regiments. You end up with an insanity such as measuring the profit of a university department by counting the number of publications by its members, as though all publications are of equal worth, which is pure wheelfs.

Profit in its monetarist sense ought to indicate the surplus gained in the market-place. But what can profit mean in a privatised utility that has had its debts written off? Profit, used by a barely competitive near-monopoly, indicates no more than an over-extraction of charges. A

rogue dentist could well make a bigger profit by over-extraction of teeth. The dentist is supposed to be a professional, and therefore concerned with more than simple profit. (Tell that to the lawyers.)

As a domestic buyer of such necessities as water, telephone, electricity, gas, public transport and so on, I find over-extraction by those utilities nearly as painful as that of the dentist. When they use these "profits" to justify inordinate increases for their chief executives, they are making a childish linguistic mistake, as well as trying to pull the wool over our eyes. What anybody finds to do with a salary that big beats me. But that is another kettle of wheelfs.

Since the rise of capitalism and the market economy, profit has become the narrowest of the nest of words including benefit, advantage, favour and gain. All it means in its roots is to advance, improve, go forward. But there are more ways of improving than any dream of in the philosophy of the market-place, or even in the mercantile manderings of G7. What is a man profited, if he shall gain a rise of 200 per cent, and lose his own soul?

...and moreover

PETER BARNARD

I made the mistake of going for a walk along the Embankment yesterday morning. The Thames was a shimmer in the early sunlight, dull would be of soul, my God look at the size of that lorry, and so forth. Then the American couple spotted me. They have a I expect spilled down from a Strand hotel to walk off their full English breakfast, for which they had come to London because a sausage on a plate in an American restaurant leads to social ostracism.

Did they want their photograph taken? Catch up out there. They wanted themselves videotaped on their camcorder. They also wanted to wait until a boat came down the river to give the background some movement, but I explained that all our trade these days was carried out by the SS Invisibles.

We did the filming and then the lady in the team asked me something that I had thought was part of American tourist mythology, one of those apocryphal stories that is considered more fun than the real thing. She asked me about cricket. Honestly. Not the rules, but, "this thing with the South Africans". I told her to buy today's *Times* and rushed off to Wapping.

Good morning, ma'am. My name is Peter and I'm your writer for today. As a way into this complicated matter of the South Africans and cricket, the South African Englishmen and cricket, let us start with a quiz question favoured whenever South Africans

gather to conduct a quiz. Who was the first South African to score a century on his Test debut? Answer: Kepler Wessels. For Australia.

Wessels went to Australia when the South Africans were ejected from international cricket because of apartheid. He played better than 20 Tests for the Aussies but is now a South African again, so will perhaps be playing for them next year. Against Australia.

Foggy, isn't it? Then there are Robin Smith and Allan Lamb. For some years, when commentators referred to "the English batting", this is who they meant: Smith and Lamb. Likewise, the present English bowling consists of Philip DeFreitas (born: Dominica) and David Lawrence (born: Gloucester — got you there).

Smith comes from Natal, which is a predominantly English-speaking province of South Africa. Lamb comes from the Cape, which is mixed English and Afrikaans. Smith sounds, in name and voice, more or less like an Englishman. Lamb speaks lark this. Both play for England, but Lamb has fallen from favour this summer, so perhaps he could go back to South Africa, now that it has fallen into favour.

You will also have heard of Grsem Hick? Impressive, although we don't actually use phrases like "great white hope" any more. Hick is from Zimbabwe and has spent seven years qualifying for England. Unfortunately, during this time he seems to have forgotten how to bat, but there is a greater misfortune: In

the very summer that Hick has qualified for England, but faces being dropped because of poor form, he now finds that he could have been playing for South Africa, a country within walking distance of Zimbabwe.

That is one of the reasons we English love cricket: it is full of irony. We do not talk much about the other reason, which is that it is full of hypocrisy. This will be well illustrated in the first England versus South Africa match post-banishment, when a vast crowd of anti-apartheid campaigners (including me) will welcome on to the field a truly cosmopolitan team with black men in it.

Then South Africa will take the field. The team will either consist entirely of white men, or it may include one black chosen on merit (who will then be written off as a token), or it will include several blacks, chosen in order to demonstrate that cricket in South Africa is multi-racial.

The problem being that it isn't, not as a natural phenomenon in the way it is in the West Indies, although I will grant a black fast bowler called Shakes Grootboom, whose first name will ensure him a place on the Association of Tabloid Headline Writers will want to know why not. But one bowler doesn't make cricket black any more than Joe Bugner made British heavyweight boxing white. You know Joe Bugner: born in Hungary.

Well there you are: cricket explained. Not easy, but it could have been worse. You could have asked me about Zola Budd. Have a nice day.

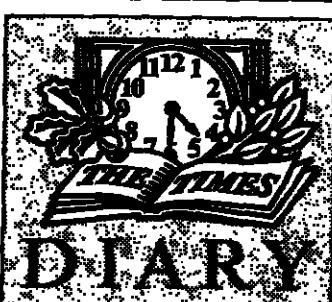
Shadow of the bomb

Neil Kinnock's announcement that he has allowed his CND membership to lapse was the cause of much soul-searching among his shadow cabinet colleagues yesterday. Almost half the Labour front bench is believed to retain membership of CND, whose aims are now totally at odds with official Labour policy. Among them are such close Kinnock colleagues as Bryan Gould. "He's definitely still a paid-up member," said Jill, his wife and secretary.

So, too, is Margaret Beckett, one of the stars of Labour's party political broadcast this week, which highlighted the orthodoxy



of her economic views, but did not draw attention to her views on defence. Jo Richardson, shadow minister for women, is not only a member but a CND vice-president. Ann Cloyd also remains a member. The office of the usually outspoken John Prescott, who was among those who rebelled against Kinnock when he won a single-vote victory on defence on Labour's National Executive Committee last October, was for once



reticent. "We don't know if he is a member," said a spokesman. "It will not be among our priorities to ask him." Other known recent CND supporters who seemed reluctant to be drawn on their continued affiliation included Robin Cook and Frank Dobson. Jack Straw, however, has followed his leader's example. "In answer to the McCarthyite question, 'Am I or have I ever been to be but have since left,'" Michael Meacher and Martin O'Neill, the defence spokesman, have also lapsed, although one member of the front bench defence team remains a professed CND supporter. Roland Boyes says: "I am still a member, but I don't think people want us to comment on this."

With Labour supporters of CND claiming that the organisation still has almost 100 fully paid-up MPs, Kinnock has some way to go before Labour can be said to have learnt to love the bomb.

London's Royal Court theatre tried again last night to stage the Double Wedding after the first performance earlier this week turned into a wash-out — literally. The production, featuring Rose English, the alternative comedienne, requires part of the stage to be transformed into an ice-rink. The generator broke down, the ice melted and the show was called off before the waves began to lap over the front row of the stalls.

Direct route

Id actors never retire, they simply go on to direct. Anthony Hopkins, at the age of 53, is still in the prime of life, or fame, with *The Silence of the Lambs* having made him everyone's favourite cannibal — but the Welshman is off to Scotland next month to make his debut as a director at the Edinburgh festival. Dylan Thomas: *Return Journey*, will in some ways be a substitute for a long-standing but unfulfilled ambition.

"For years, I wanted to play Dylan Thomas in either a play or a film, but never had the chance," Hopkins says. When he saw a recent performance by Bob Kingdon, another Welsh actor who had devised his own show about Thomas, Hopkins hit instead on the idea of directing. "He was really impressive," Hopkins says. "A few months later I ventured a suggestion that I would like to help out if he needed an objective 'other eye' and he agreed." Hopkins has clearly enjoyed the experience, and has no plans to go gently into that good night; he is already planning to direct a second show, about Truman Capote, next year.

Cost-cutting

The G7 summit may be extravagant by London standards — the event, it is estimated, will cost the British taxpayer some £7 million — but in these recession-hit times will it be as grandiose as the bashes put on in recent years by the French and Americans? Jeremy Varcoe, Britain's summit co-ordinator, promises "a workmanlike and efficient environment". To keep costs down anything to be eaten or drunk by delegates will be sponsored. The cultural high point at Buckingham Palace, with music by James Galway and a military band, is unlikely to be quite as

grand as the concert in the full Versailles tradition laid on by Francois Mitterand two years ago. As for poor President Gorbachev, who went to great lengths to ensure his seat in London, he will have to sit the evening out at the Soviet embassy. Because G7 is not yet G8 he is not on the guest list for the Palace party.

Terry Fields, the MP for Broadgreen, Liverpool, may not be too pleased to see his first prison visitor. Walton prison is in the neighbouring constituency of Peter Kilfoyle, victor of the Walton by-election — during which Fields was conspicuous by his absence. Showing no hard feelings, the local MP promises to be first in the queue. "We will have plenty to talk about," says Kilfoyle in a manner that might just persuade Fields to pay up quick.

Faces familiar

ton's little known private collection of "leaving portraits" goes on rare public exhibition next week at the Dulwich picture gallery in London. The collection started in the 18th century when it became the custom for boys who were leaving the school to give portraits of themselves to the headmaster. On Wordsworth's principle that the child is father of the man, the interest lies in showing great men as callow youths at the outset of glittering careers.

The tradition has been revived in the current century and a dozen boys have been painted in the last decade. A number, including those of Jonathan Noakes, son of the royal painter Michael, and Jacob Rees-Mogg, son of Lord Rees-Mogg, will hang alongside what the exhibition publicity calls "their notorious predecessors" — one way of describing 18 prime ministers, countless bishops, numerous diplomats, and assorted philanthropists.



THE HOUSING PUZZLE

This week, the rich and famous have joined the poor and homeless on London's streets, sleeping in a cardboard box to raise money for those who have no home. Today, Lord Mackay, the Lord Chancellor, will announce a reform of the leasehold system, giving leaseholders the right to buy their freeholds through a new system of commonhold. These two fragments form part of the same puzzle. Is a picture emerging from the jigsaw of the government's housing policy?

In the first two Conservative administrations, the most successful piece of that policy was giving tenants the right to buy their council homes. Since 1979, well over one million have been sold. In the property boom of the 1980s, some people gave the right-to-buy policy almost single-handed credit for transforming skilled working-class voters into Conservatives. Labour, though reluctant at first, had eventually to concede that council house sales were a vote-winner.

Encouraging owner-occupation was not enough. Skill shortages in the late 1980s showed how rigidities in the housing market could damage labour mobility. The recent combination of rising interest rates and unemployment has both paralysed the housing market and led to a rise of 140 per cent in mortgage arrears and 150 per cent in repossessions last year. Home ownership is no longer seen as an unqualified boon.

Moreover, though 67 per cent of homes are now owner-occupied, compared with 55 per cent in 1979, still a third are lived in by people who are too poor or have too unpredictable an income to afford a mortgage, or simply prefer the flexibility of renting. The government's Housing Act of 1988 was addressed mainly to them. It had two aims: to encourage housing associations to replace local authorities as the main providers of low-cost housing for rent; and to reverse the decline in the private rented sector, which has fallen from 90 per cent of housing at the turn of the century to less than 10 per cent now. The aims were worthy, but neither hit its target — initially, at least.

The first crashed upon the twin rocks of tenant apathy and local political antipathy. Council tenants were wary of handing their estates over to housing action trusts, which were intended to improve the housing stock and then to offer tenants the choice of buying or renting. After initial aversion Labour councils have started to come round. In Hull tenants, encouraged by their council, have voted to hand their estates over to "housing action trusts". Liverpool and Waltham Forest may soon follow suit. This in turn may help the housing associations, who have fast run out of money.

The latest proposal by the housing minister, Sir George Young, is for private buildings to be let and managed by the public sector with right of repossession and sale remaining with the landlord. While this may not do much for the homeless of London — themselves subject of a determined drive to induce them into new hostels — it is at least a step in the direction of the public housing sector being for those in genuine destitution rather than in that vague category of "housing need".

Housing was always the bugbear of enthusiasts for labour mobility. The lesson of recent years is that a steady trickle of government and market-related activity is at last bringing the rental market alive. Though the inclusion of rental companies in business expansion schemes offered some boost, landlords were chary of offering even "assured shorthold tenancies" for fear that an incoming Labour government would reintroduce security of tenure. Now the Opposition has helped by promising that a free-market private rented sector would continue free under Labour.

Most help has come from the market itself. Those who cannot sell homes have to let them. Estate agents' windows and newspapers' columns are full of rental offers. Legislation may have painted the picture on the jigsaw box, but it is the market that is ensuring that the pieces come together.

STIMULUS BY SANCTIONS

President Bush's lifting of trade sanctions against South Africa will do little to help that country's economy — ironically less than his decision not to lift financial ones. The Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 was self-servingly selective, influenced by America's steel, coal, farm and textiles lobbies. It merely challenged South African exporters to find new markets, as many did.

The financial sanctions by contrast squeezed the South African economy hard, notably those under the Gramm Amendment which banned new investment and required the US to block access to loans by the International Monetary Fund. Most foreign credits dried up. Capital flight in the second half of the 1980s was limited to 30 billion rands only by the imposition of strict foreign exchange controls. To service foreign debt, Pretoria has had to maintain tight monetary policies to keep a balance of payments surplus.

These constraints remain. Do they really hurt? The irony is that Mr Bush has probably hit the right balance for South Africa's own economic health. Trade sanctions, as even the African National Congress has concluded, have had little effect on South Africa's steadily more healthy export performance. They have hit labour-intensive industries and thus black workers. Ending these sanctions should at least give a fillip where employment has been hardest hit.

At the same time, the continued enforcement of monetary discipline will do anything but cripple the economy. South Africa's business and financial community have hated the experience. But these sanctions have shielded them from the curse of Third World countries (one of which South Africa still is), namely unrestricted international credit. Ending the sanctions would have deprived the Federal Reserve board of its best excuse for prudence and made it much harder to keep rising inflation and unit costs under control.

This control, not easy credit lines, is the

key to sound long-term investment. Precisely because it is underdeveloped, South Africa's eagerness for IMF loans is understandable. Blacks workers desperately need infrastructure and see in inward investment the route to quick jobs. They also expect such investment, linked to political reform, to cut South Africa's economic inequalities.

Foreign credits are the route to long-term disaster. Sanctions have strengthened South Africa's industrial base, encouraged import substitution, increased the relative value of labour against capital and accustomed businesses to lean profits. Of course every developing state needs investment, but it must be able to pay for it. South Africa has to build up a larger pool of skilled workers. Its productivity is low, under-employment is soaring and real wages in the formal sector are unrealistically high. A burst of capital-intensive foreign investment is just what it does not need.

The World Bank recently pointed out that what the Third World most needs is not debt but trade. Next week's G7 should acknowledge this, though it is unlikely to act on any such acknowledgement. Trade with South Africa should benefit the most labour-intensive parts of the economy, agriculture, coal and tourism in particular. Unable to build up debt, South Africa must thus concentrate on increasing trade and the ratio of exports to gross domestic product.

Private capital formation will remain scarce, irrespective of sanctions, as long as political uncertainty exists and doubts persist over the ANC's economic interventionism. Meanwhile sound money and export-led growth must have priority. The "burden" of financial sanctions has fastened South Africa to virtue's rock. Whether deliberately or by the fortuitous conjunction of foreign moralising with economic reality, Mr Bush has probably saved South Africa from the fate Western bankers have visited on so many other states.

UP THE ENGLISH

Next week's summit in London will need simultaneous translations into German, French, Japanese and English, and later — as Mikhail Gorbachev has almost no English — into Russian. But the summit language barrier no longer represents the wider world. The human race is rapidly coming down from Babel. There is now one golden rule for ambitious bureaucrats, executives and servants in every continent: learn English.

Lower down the summit's talking pyramid, where officials get to grips with detail, English will almost reach that long-term goal of international visionaries, a universal language. Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, it is said, partly owes his job as Soviet foreign minister to his ability to speak English. Hans-Dietrich Genscher learnt English in English. Douglas Hurd may want to display this respectable French, but the others are unlikely to allow him: they will want to study his English pronunciation. The study of his English pronunciation. There is an international snobbery about English no less intense than the domestic variety.

But international English is not a language in which phrases like "any old" or "getting to grips" are welcome. When English is on a world stage, the first rule is to avoid idioms, figures of speech and jokes. To adapt Noel Coward, Brussels or UN English is as flat and well drained as Norfolk.

The English language's claim to be the world's voice is based partly on luck — the British empire had more people in it than

the French — and partly on America's postwar pre-eminence in commerce, technology and entertainment. English has displaced French as the language of diplomacy, even emerging as the unofficial first language of the European Community. English has been a safe political answer to irksome linguistic rivalries. Former Warsaw Pact countries, angrily crossing Russian off their list of compulsory school subjects, have substituted English even where, as in Hungary, history or geography might suggest German. Meanwhile English, the universally preferred second language in Soviet schools, is sweeping the Russian steppes.

The three EC foreign ministers in Yugoslavia mediated in English. The 28 nations in the allied coalition in the Gulf fought in English. The French contingent even switched their press briefings to English when they thought they were not getting enough media coverage. For all the efforts of the French Academy, the French know they have lost this battle.

The 450 million foreigners who speak English as their second language — double the number ten years ago — and the 1,000 million still learning it, owe most to the British Council, a once flaccid organisation which now operates in 90 countries; and to the BBC World Service. England may now have little else to offer the world but its language. But that should not be underrated. Mr Gorbachev may yet find English can do for the unity of his country what it once did for India. He is welcome to borrow it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Putting arms pledges into practice

From the Chairman of CND

Sir, I am happy to see the five permanent members of the UN Security Council urging that the Middle East is declared an area free of weapons of mass destruction (report, July 10). I would be even happier to see this declaration substantiated with clear policies as to how it is to be achieved and extended beyond the immediate area.

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which is the major international agreement over nuclear weapons, has its own safeguarding mechanisms and powers of search through the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Those powers have been exercised, notably in Iran during the Gulf war, and it is clear that they are not sufficiently thorough-going. The IAEA must be made far stronger, both in terms of resources and expertise, and in terms of international good will.

However, adherence to the NPT has to go beyond this if it is to be genuinely effective in an area as war-torn as the Middle East. Nuclear proliferation is not only "horizontal" — i.e. across states which did not formerly possess nuclear weapons — it also operates "vertically", by nuclear-armed states upgrading, replacing and adding to their existing nuclear stocks.

One of the first and most important steps which Britain and the other members of the UN Security Council should take is in addressing their own vertical proliferation. Britain may have signed the NPT,

but the Polaris nuclear submarine system and the Trident system which is planned to replace it form a ready-made justification for any state which intends to acquire its own nuclear weapons.

In addition, the escalation which Trident represents, and the British government's refusal to include its own nuclear weapons in any international arms negotiations, contravene the NPT's commitment to pursue arms negotiations in good faith.

The promise by Security Council members to be more careful about selling other weapons of mass destruction needs to be substantiated rather than appear as a vague expression of good will.

Britain is the world's third largest arms manufacturer, and exports weapons to over 20 states. An effective arms-export register and controls over all arms sales — under the administration of the United Nations — would do more to prevent unnecessary bloodshed than any number of the post-facto embargoes which have recently been on arms sales to Iraq, Yugoslavia and any other area which is abruptly deemed to be "unstable".

The whole issue is just too urgent — we must see these well-meaning proposals consolidated and effectively implemented as soon as possible.

Yours etc.,

MARJORIE THOMPSON,

Chairman,

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament,

162 Holloway Road, N7.

July 10.

Hong Kong's future

From Sir Patrick Nairne

Sir, As one of the two independent monitors of the arrangements for consulting the people of Hong Kong in 1984, I must correct what Sir Alfred Sherman has said in his misleading letter of July 9. It is not true that "the people of Hong Kong were not consulted" about the agreement between the United Kingdom and China on the future of Hong Kong.

As the then Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, reported to the House of Commons on December 5, 1984, the Executive Council of Hong Kong was confidentially consulted during the negotiations. After the draft agreement had been published in September 1984, and over 3.5 million copies distributed in Hong Kong, all sections of the Hong Kong people were consulted, as fully as was practicable, through the mechanism of a special assessment office.

The report of that office stated that "the overall picture from reports by and through the media is one of general acceptance" and that "all the principal representative bodies" and "the overwhelming majority of organisations and groups" found "the draft agreement acceptable".

Mr Justice Simon Li and I, as the two independent monitors, reported, in accordance with our terms of reference, that the assessment office had discharged its functions properly, accurately and faithfully, and with impartiality. The two reports were published by the government as a white paper on November 29, 1984.

In 1984 Hong Kong people did not deceive themselves about the risks ahead after 1997. As monitors, we judged it right to report that "the verdict of acceptance implies neither positive enthusiasm nor passive acquiescence"; and, at the end

of our report, we included these words:

Nobody in Hong Kong can escape the uncertainties of the future... The minority who reject the draft agreement do so either because they can never accept reunification with Communist China or because they are bitter about the consequences for themselves as British Dependent Territories Citizens. The majority who accept it do so chiefly because they regard reunification as inevitable and are relieved that the terms of the draft agreement are as good as they are.

Yours faithfully,

PATRICK NAIRNE,

Yew Tree, Chilton,

Charlbury, Oxfordshire.

From Lord MacLachan of Beoch

Sir, Sir Alfred Sherman implied that in 1984 it was unnecessary to have agreed to return to China the ceded territory of Hong Kong Island and part of Kowloon when the lease of the New Territories (92 per cent of the colony) runs out in 1997. But the ceded territory had become completely integrated with the New Territories and for a host of reasons could not have stood up as a separate unit, let alone against Chinese opposition.

Sir Alfred claims that the joint declaration was not a treaty and not binding. Sir Geoffrey Howe, then foreign secretary, covered this in the Commons on December 5, 1984.

The joint declaration and its annexes constitute a legally binding international agreement. As the Chinese foreign minister recently told the standing committee of the National Peoples Congress in Peking, the joint declaration is a form of international treaty; it has the same force in international law and is legally binding.

Both parties subsequently registered the joint declaration with the United Nations, like any other binding international agreement.

Yours faithfully,

MACLEHOSE,

(Governor of Hong Kong, 1971-82),

Beoch, Maybole, Ayrshire.

KGB files on Hess

From Mr David Irving

Sir, As the only historian who has been allowed to study the private files of Rudolf Hess — which his widow still jealously guards in her bedroom in Bavaria — I believe that I can certify the correspondence with him after their first chance meeting at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

I examined these files last September. In the "Ham" file was a large brown envelope with the typed name "Hamilton" underlined in red. It had been emptied. Other such envelopes all contained signed photographs, postcards and smaller items, without exception dating from 1938.

The "Hanshofer" file had also had several hundred pages removed, evidently by an American colonel, Eric M. Lipton, from Nuremberg, who visited Frau Hess in October 1945.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID IRVING,

81 Duke Street, W1.

Dee tip proposal

From Mrs M. R. Jones

Sir, Your environment correspondent, Michael McCarthy, demonstrated clearly (report, July 1) the folly of the proposal to site a waste-disposal dump at Pen-y-bont, Croyd, in an area that is 90 per cent surrounded by the river Dee, providing drinking water for two million people.

The consequences of such a development would be apparent for centuries rather than decades, which makes a nonsense of the promise by the company involved, Shanks and McEwan, to pump out leachates.

It is surprising that the National Rivers Authority, custodian of our water, has not made a firm stand on the subject. We have been told that although it does not approve of the plan and considers it incompatible with desired development near a potable water source, it cannot object on technical grounds.

As current research shows, the behaviour of leachates is unpredict-

Tennis facilities

From Mr and Mrs David Terry

Sir, You are right to say that more and better tennis facilities are needed (leader, July 8). But we could also do far more with what we already have.

Opposite our house are four perfectly adequate tennis courts belonging to a comprehensive school. On Sunday afternoon, while we watched two young Germans contest the Wimbledon final, seven or eight 14-year-olds climbed over the high fence surrounding the locked courts, at no little personal risk, in order to play tennis, dubbing each other with names of their tennis heroes, such as Edberg, Becker, Agassi, as they did. After about an hour, the head teacher arrived and they were ordered off.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID TERRY,

MAILEY TERRY,

28 Hill Grove Crescent,

Kidderminster, Worcestershire.

able, so disasters might occur which neither the company nor the NRA could predict. The secretary of state for Wales should heed the overwhelming opposition to an ill-advised scheme that could cause environmental catastrophe for generations to come.

Yours faithfully,

M. R. JONES (Chairman,

Penre Residents' Action Group),

Lansdowne, Penre, Chirk, Cwyd.

From the Director of Friends of the Earth

Sir, The four local water companies which are to be commended for having objected to the proposed waste tip at Pen-y-bont. Pollution prevention should be the paramount consideration. This site is fit for the disposal of only of inert waste.

A report on Shanks and McEwan's waste-disposal plan, by a

consultant hydrogeologist, states that "mathematical modelling of the site has shown that extensive contamination of groundwater in the vicinity of the site will occur". It continues, "contaminated seepages will threaten the river Dee."

These conclusions, which followed meetings between the consultant and experts employed by Shanks and McEwan, formed the basis for our objection in 1989 to the company's planning application.

The company's exercise of its automatic right of appeal, despite the mountain of informed opposition to its plan, has forced the local council to allocate scarce resources to defend its decision. To prevent the appeal procedure being used to overload the planning control system, the grounds for one should first have to be established in order to justify a full hearing.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID GEE, Director,

Friends of the Earth,

26-28 Underwood Street, N1.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

'Golden goodbyes' and top pay rises

From Mr C. R. C. Wilson

Sir, Mr Hitchcock (July 6) misses the point. Salary consultants are certainly paid to produce remuneration packages which attract and keep suitable candidates. But the issues are different.

Is it prudent business for a director to negotiate a package where personal gain is dependent on the company making a profit, and where the extent of that profit is partially determined by the ability to keep the workforce pay low?

Is it sensible for a director to negotiate a remuneration package which, when the company is inoperably run, even so removes that director from office with a handsome golden goodbye?

I accept that a remuneration package is designed to attract and keep the best; but what has happened to UK company management systems where the "best" know for a fact that regardless of results, their financial future is nevertheless assured?

The issue is the UK habit of treating employees in a noticeably different way from management. Our top management attitudes and judgment are bad.

It is bad practice that directors be remunerated with golden goodbyes. It would be bad practice if workers were paid off for shoddy work. It is bad practice for directors to negotiate an 8 per cent pay rise with a work force and simultaneously accept vast pay increases for themselves.

Yours faithfully,

RICHARD WILSON

(Chief Executive),

Enterprise Corporate Finance Ltd.,

41 Paradise Walk, Chelsea, SW3.

From Mrs J. Steward

Sir, Mrs Rae Linnert's letter (June 28) describes too well the painful process by which a shareholder may put forward a resolution to other British Gas shareholders.

I do not think that the procedure is as arduous for members of the

Nationwide Anglia Building Society, but it does seem rather pointless even to try. The final sentence of the board of directors' response to the only member's resolution to appear in the notice of the annual general meeting is:

Members should be aware that this resolution, if passed, would not be legally binding upon the board, in the context of their general duty to manage the society in the interests of all the members.

In other words, if a member goes through the procedure, if the resolution is then passed, the board will do as it pleases anyway. So much for the democratic process!

Yours sincerely,

J. STEWARD,

7 Essex Road,

Watford, Hertfordshire.

From Mr J. M. L. Stone

Sir, Mrs Linnert's comprehension of what is required to galvanise a shareholding body is, in part, mistaken; and there is no reason why disgruntled shareholders in any company should not do as did the shareholders in the Burmah Oil Company Limited in 1975 and thereafter.

The Burmah Shareholders Action Group, of which I was honorary treasurer until 1983, raised some £90,000 from shareholders to obtain legal advice, and to pay for advertising, public relations and printing. The lack of action by shareholders in most cases where short-term indignation is manifested can be attributed, quite simply, to the short-term nature of the indignation.

The undertaking outlined by Mrs Linnert is by no means impossible for a group of shareholders to organise and she is totally mistaken as to the requirements for shareholders to attend "an annual meeting in Birmingham on a Thursday afternoon in August". Proxies will do quite nicely.

Yours faithfully,

J. M. L. STONE,

13-15 John Adam Street, WC2.

A savers' charter?

From Mr Philip Chappell

Sir, Michael Meacher (July 5) correctly draws attention to the level of commission and charges on personal pension products. Indeed, his criticism should be more wide-ranging and cover the full range of financial services.

The quick remedy to excessive charges is full, timely and proper disclosure, based on one simple question — how much of the investor's money is actually put to work for his benefit? This is an issue which the financial regulators have continued to duck, from a mixture of paternalistic concern ("no one would buy if they knew the truth") and actuarial smoke-screen ("the product is so complicated that the charges cannot be calculated").

The first argument is just laughable; to the second there should be a robust response. If the product is too complicated to explain to the consumer, it is too complicated to sell to the consumer; ban it.

But the long-term pensions solution is not to follow Mr Meacher

with a return to the bureaucratic stranglehold of the state earnings related scheme (Serps) or the employers' rip-off of occupational schemes. Charges and costs on personal pensions are trivial compared with the Achilles' heel of occupational schemes, the barriers to job mobility which they create and their robbery of the early leaver.

Excessive charges are a by-product of an over-complicated savings market, with the unholy alliance of the Inland Revenue and the Occupational Pensions Board conspiring to defeat the politicians' best intentions. So scrap the tax breaks for pensions, scrap the contribution limits, scrap the demand for savings plan managers, and restore the primacy of the direct, personal investor.

Chancellor Lawson started down this route; perhaps Chancellor Lamont could now work alongside his neighbour by developing a "savers' charter", based on the three pillars of simplicity, fiscal neutrality and personal choice.

Yours faithfully,

PHILIP CHAPPELL,

22 Froggall Lane, NW3.

Confusion in Bucks

From Mr C. W. Prutley

Sir, Perhaps insertion of the word "in" could remove Mr McWilliam's misgivings (July 5) over the Royal Mail's sorting of his address.

Yours etc.,

CLIVE PRUTLEY,

The Old Chapel, Aldfield,

via Ripon, N. Yorkshire HG4 3BE.

From the Headmaster of Repton School

Sir, I was delighted to see your recent article (Sport, July 4) recognising the excellence of Repton School's tennis players, but disturbed by your reference to a "tennis scholarship programme".

I would like to make it clear that we do not give sports scholarships — the only scholarships available are for academic or musical achievement. The success of the school in sports, and particularly tennis, is solely due to the parents' desire to send their sons and daughters to a school where they will benefit from every encouragement, and first-class coaching and facilities.

Your article rightly points out that the attraction of Repton for some of the country's top tennis players is the ability to train and play to a high standard without sacrificing their academic future.

Yours faithfully,

G. E. JONES, Headmaster,

Repton School, Repton, Derby.

Dealing with Militant

From the Leader of the House of Lords

Sir, Your leading article of July 6, comparing the extreme left in the Labour party to a many-headed hydra, is both timely and accurate. Labour's response to this threat has been far from Herculean.

In January last year, Dave Nellist, MP, issued a press release supporting a campaign of illegal non-payment of the community charge and a demonstration organised by the so-called All-Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation. The Labour leadership had eventually to acknowledge that this was a front organisation controlled by the Militant Tendency.

No action was taken by Neil Kinnock against the 28 MPs, including 25 members of the more than 30-strong Campaign Group of Labour MPs, who endorsed that campaign. Mr Nellist, a member of that group, has recently been nominated by them for a place on Labour's national executive committee.

Members of the Campaign Group share many positions with the Militant Tendency, apart from illegal non-payment of the community charge. They strongly support nationalisation of the "commanding heights of the economy". They oppose Nato and British participation in it. They were entirely hostile to our role in the Gulf war, and they fully backed the 1984-5 Scargill strike.

Many Campaign Group MPs also share Militant's desire for the security services to be closed down, and both organisations are totally opposed to the expulsion of extremists from the Labour party. It seems, therefore, a trifle unfair to victimise the Militant-sympathising Liverpool MPs, when so many of Mr Kinnock's backbenchers are barely distinguishable from them.

Yours

Schubert to a tortured strain

DONALD COOPER



Haunting: Juliet Stevenson (Paulina) and Michael Byrne (the doctor)

THEATRE
Death and the Maiden
Royal Court Upstairs

WHEN one tyranny is succeeded by another, the question of what to do with the former tyrants is simply answered: captured leaders are shot and their brutal underlings re-employed to continue the business of raping and torturing dissidents. But if it is a democracy that takes power after a tyrant's overthrow, the answer is not so simple. Where is the line to be drawn between retribution and reconciliation? For whom and for what crimes should there be amnesty?

This insistent problem is finding expression in a season of double-bills with the general title "Cross References". The plays have been jointly commissioned by London International Festival of Theatre '91 and the Royal Court, with the involvement of the National Theatre studio, and in each night's programme one of a choice of four half-hour plays is followed by Ariel Dorfman's *Death and the Maiden*.

Dorfman writes of his native Chile in the aftermath of the dictatorship. His characters are a lawyer, his wife and a doctor. Except for the brief, telling episode, the events take place at a beach house on the night that the lawyer Gerardo (Bill Paterson) is asked to investigate the crimes of the

recent past. Paulina (Juliet Stevenson) was one such victim, subjected to electric torture and degrading abuse, and when Roberto (Michael Byrne) gives her husband a lift after his tyre blows, she recognises in his voice the suave menace of the doctor who raped her and played Schubert as background music to her torture.

Arming herself with a gun, Paulina puts Roberto on trial and extorts a confession from the man who may or may not be the one who has scarred her mind. Engrossing from its swiftly mood-building start to the remarkable finish, working on several layers of tension that include the cliffhanger of whether her mind is to be trusted, Dorfman's play leaves yet another question hovering in our minds: to what extent does it matter if the accused is innocent and made to life if the victim thereby finds redemption from her torment?

Lindsay Posner's taut direction is like a landscape where the actors can explore towering passion and cavernous depths. In the playing between Stevenson and Paterson, the subtleties of sentences left unfinished and overlapping words reveal a marriage charged with tenderness and alarm. Stevenson's own performance is transfusing: nervy, outraged, sturdy, delicate, her voice and laughter the expression of a woman treading the knife-edge towards or away from justice. A master work.

JEREMY KINGSTON

MUSICAL

Doctor Heart
Royal Exchange,
Manchester

THIS musical is a hit in Budapest where it has run for over two years in repertory with such successes as *Cats*. Trevor Peacock's English version has cut long speeches to the audience on matters which presumably mean more to Hungarians than to Britons. In the process the piece's backbone seems to have vanished.

The fairytale plot unravels sometime in the future. A physicist has discovered how to make one's dreams materialise, starting with childhood heroes. The Balkans are fairly Americanised, to judge by the parade of Batman and Robin, the Last of the Mohicans and Dorothy in search of Oz, who outnumber poor Alice from Wonderland at the Queen of Hearts.

Braham Murray's production is lavish in resources and vague on cultural identity. After some time and much irritation we realise that the characters' mixture of accents — mid-European, Bronx, British — signifies some supra-national state. Totalitarian black-uniformed policemen with a Scottish commander, English newscasters and a community of broken-down English aristocrats, beguiled New York flower-seller, greedy Italian financier, and his cockle American daughter — they all flat between fantasy and satire.

In a long first half lacking dramatic urgency, the state threatens to take over the miraculous apparatus. The storyline runs tentatively through such events as the appearance of Hamlet, the materialisation of the ageing woman's ideal lover, and the arrival of the girl whom the scientist has advertised for in a newspaper, sight unseen, according to her astrological components. The Phantom of the Opera is the organist at the wedding

conducted by St Peter, draped in his fisherman's nets, who satisfies both Jewish and Catholic criteria alike.

Peter Muller's original book sets individuality, creativity and imagination against the encroachments of the state. In English it emerges as mawkish and tedious. The eclectic score by Leszek Tolosay hardly helps, ranging from the wondrous denouement of the long lullaby of life (fairly recalling Magda's great outburst in *The Consul*) to the jolly tarantella when the company giggles in delight at the dream machine, like listeners captivated by the magic piano in *Soldado*.

The score is best when most genuine, in slow rock ballads like the one to which the scientist's dead wife is resurrected two-and-a-half hours into the action. Carol Noakes's Bar-

bara Dickson-like voice is just right. Johanna Bryant's design is rich in technological wizardry, including a giant telescope. However, the production can do little with the banality.

That the rich man's daughter will at some point resort to him with "you didn't love another — you can't love anybody" comes as no surprise, and the ending, where a seal of police protects the dreamers from police attack ("unbelievable the hulkies are springing back"), seems perfunctory.

Andy Serkis is vigorous as the scientist but lacks the requisite singing voice. Ian Bartholomew's alcoholic failed actor gives the most interesting performance; but the prize for energy devoted to a hopeless cause goes to Frances Tomelty. She bashes out her blizzard of toughness and vulnerability with unremitting, all-mugging zeal. There are some embarrassments: a former Royal Shakespeare Company Portia should be spared.

MARTIN HOYLE

THEATRE

Webster
Old Red Lion, Islington

ROBERT David MacDonald's boisterous play about Jack Webster (he of *The White Devil* and *The Duchess of Malfi*) comes up to 14 actors on to this small stage at one time. The setting is an unspecified theatre space along the side of a Jacobean theatre, and at the Glasgow Citizens, where in 1983 the play was first seen, the cast presumably had more room in which to stride and to pose, for many of them are actors taring themselves up for the afternoon show.

Yet Jessica Tyrwhitt's set brilliantly turns the entire auditorium into a theatre storehouse, where costumes, masks and mirrors hang from every wall. A small-panel window cleverly cuts off a corner of the stage to hint at the backstage on the other side, and stairs climb up to a tiled, curtained gallery leading to the imagined theatre beyond. The stage is sometimes packed with jostling theatricals but the sense of a community busily at work is marvellously retained. Actors, distraught manager, heady-eyed assistants are caught in a moment of crisis but somehow make sure that the show goes on.

JEREMY KINGSTON

THEATRE

Vermin
Finborough Arms,
Earls Court

TO SEE a state of the kingdom allegory in Nick Burbridge's grimly misanthropic quartet set in "a derelict toy warehouse" would be easy. The author has two more plays in the same vein lined up. Following this study of homelessness in the lower depths of Europe's sixth richest city (Brighton), the trilogy will be completed by plays on alcoholism and long-term psychiatric patients released into the community. Wagner's *Ring* will seem like Ray Cooney in comparison.

Half-witted Brummie, satirically bullying Scot, vindictive Northern Irish Catholic and sympathetic punk are manipulated for no apparent reason by Brock, a homeless smoothie who does a smoking jacket for the odd joint like all Oxford men (for such he is).

Brock's fellow sufferers and victims have names like Rat (the Scot), Tom (a feine Ulsterman) and Tod (the half-wit, as in death, or on his own?). The girl is called Bun, perhaps as a motherly symbol of comfort, or perhaps because she spends much of the time hot and cross.

The names hint at *The Wind in the*

Willows, the world portrayed is a jungle. The characters play power games, fall into traps. Simple Tod innocently admits sexual impotence but regains respect by brandishing a knife. The terrifying Rat is toppled from dominance but returns, deceptively peaceable, to bring about the final tragedy. When these warring creatures work together, some DSS hearing, for example, to prepare a claimant for unsympathetic authority. Here the satire is heavy-handed. Much else is overwritten; but raw emotion is certainly there, and plenty of anger is generated. If Burbridge can impose some discipline and shape on his sense of outrage he will emerge the more powerful for it. As it is, the Irishman's bitter recollection of growing up as a Catholic on a Protestant estate, anxious to be accepted, is more affecting than the play's violence, physical or verbal.

A success at the Brighton Festival. John Grant's production now has a mainly new cast. One survivor, Simon Harvey as the feeble-witted Tod, is outstanding, but the whole company plays with immense conviction. It scarcely needs such over-enthusiastic nudges in the ribs as bursts of Elgar or ironic hymn singing.

MARTIN HOYLE
Arts features, page 13

NEW RELEASES

ANDREI RUBLEV (12): Terence's stunning fresco of an icon painter's life in medieval Russia, completed in 1968. (Renoir) (071-727 9402).

HENRY: PORTRAIT OF A SERIAL KILLER (12): Unsettling, fly-on-the-wall study of human depravity in Chicago. Director: John McLaughlin. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

HUDSON HAWK (12): Car-burger Bruce Willis goes down into a plan to conquer the world. Profane, diabolical action-comedy with a low IQ. Director: Richard Donner. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

KILL ME AGAIN (12): Bad girl Joanne Whalley-Kilmer lures steady private eye into a web of deceit. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

NOCE BLANCHE (12): Philosophy teacher falls for delinquent pupil. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

THELMA & LOUISE (12): Desert road movie with Geena Davis and Susan Sarandon fleeing through the American Southwest. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

THE CARPENTER: Donald Pleasence in Peter's classic black and white musical, packed with music. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

CARMEN JONES: Classic production of the Homeric story of a black musical, packed with music. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

COMEDY OF ERRORS: Described as the funniest play ever written, this production of the classic comedy is a must. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

DANCING AT LUGHNASSA: Brian Friel's award-winning play. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN: Juliet Stevenson and Michael Byrne. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

DICKENS WOMEN: Spoken, still life of the lives of the women of the Dickens family. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT: Jason Donovan sings a golden rule for this story. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

THE KING AND I: Susan Hampshire returns with David. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and where indicated with the symbol (C) on release across the country.

Grain (071-225 3322) Whiteley (071-727 9402).

LA GLOIRE DE MON PÈRE (12): Epicodic pathos through Marcel Pagnol's childhood. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

THE HAIRDESSER'S HUSBAND (12): A film tale of romantic obsession. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

THE KING OF NEW YORK (12): Christopher Walken as a ruthless hoodlum with style. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

MISERY (12): Oscar-winning Kathy Bates as the number one fan tormenting a novelist. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

THE NAKED GUN 2½ — THE SMELL OF FEAR (12): Leslie Nielsen as a detective. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

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WEEKEND EVENTS

"Silk Cut City Jazz" tour. (Cannon) (071-727 9402).

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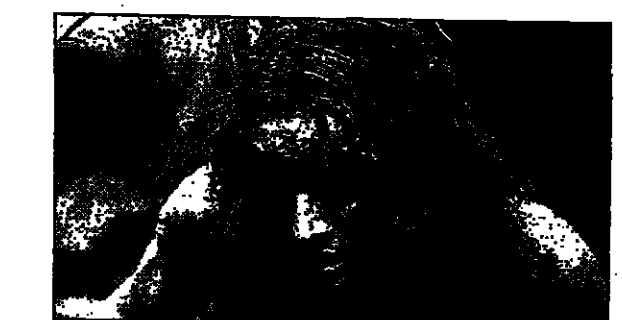
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5.00 Coeur: 5.30 BBC Breakfast News
5.05 Phobos. Cartoon adventures 8.25 Knowledge (r)
10.00 News, regional news and weather 10.05 Playdays (r) 10.25
Ladies' Danger Mountain. Lasse and Corey Stuart have a brush
with death when they inspect permit renewals at a ski lift (r)
11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 Our House. American
family drama. A major earthquake strikes while Jess has left a
baby with Gus. Wales: Peaceable Kingdom 11.55 The Travel
Show. John Thirlwell gives his personal view of Fethiye
in Turkey (r). (Coeur). Wales: The Travel Show. Magdalen
in Majorca.
12.00 News, regional news and weather 12.05 Search for the Great
Apes. The story of the late Diane Fossey's remarkable dedication
to the mountain gorillas of central Africa. Her life has been the
subject of a feature film, *Gorillas in the Mist*, starring Sigourney
Weaver 12.05 Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather 1.30 Neighbours. (Coeur)
1.50 Film: *Carve Her Name with Pride* (1958, b/w). The true story of
Violetta Szabo, the young British widow whose work during the
second world war made her the first woman to win the George
Cross. After the death of her husband Etienne (Alan Sealy) at El
Alamein, Violetta returns to her parents in London's East End. But
soon she is working under cover as a secret service agent,
carrying out hazardous assignments in Eastern Europe. With Paul
Scott, Jack Warner and Denise Grey. Directed by Lewis Gilbert.
3.45 Dig. Cartoon 4.10 *Swaggle* (r) 4.35 The Legend of the Tazmanian
Episode 11 of the 12-part children's drama serial about a boy who
loses his leg. Tim receives some advice from a wise old man (r)
5.00 News 5.10 The Girl from Tomorrow. Episode 11 of the 12-
part drama serial about a girl from the year 3000 (Coeur)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Coeur). Northern Ireland: Sportsweek 5.40 Inside
Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Morna Stuart. 6.30
Regional news magazines. Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Weather. Guests include sprinter Linford Christie, Birds of a
Feather actress Lesley Joseph and Zia Moheyddin from the new
soap *Family Prides*. Music is provided by Deacon Blue and Hue and
Cry
7.40 Little and Large. The comedians' guests are Pat Duffell,
Debbie McGee, Gretchen Franklin and Seven (r). (Coeur)
8.15 The Paul O'Grady Show. The master of magical feats is
joined by his wife and assistant, Debbie McGee, and special
guests Los Yulucras from South America and Kevin James of
California (r). (Coeur)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Marilyn Lewis. (Coeur) Regional news
and weather



Aping an intelligent Tarzan: Christopher Lambert (9.30pm)

9.30 Film: Greylock — The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes
(1984)
● CHOICE: The second film from *Charlotte of Fire* director Hugh
Hudson has gained rather less critical acclaim than his television
commercial for Neil Kinnock. The project had a troubled history
with the studio, but the director, making the final cut, Tim
Scripps, Robert Towne, took his name off the credits and
substituted that of his dog. But if the narrative is lumpy and
sometimes difficult to follow, there is still much to enjoy in this
unimpeachable cinema treatment of the Tarzan myth. Christopher
Lambert plays Tarzan, substituting intelligence for rippling
muscles. The Cameron road provides a splendidly lush
backdrop and Rick Baker created the remarkable life costumes.
As the old earl, Tarzan's grandfather, Ralph Richardson gives a
performance of joyous eccentricity. Richardson died soon after
shooting was completed. The film is dedicated to him. (Coeur).
Northern Ireland: The Twelfth. 10.10 Skulduggery
11.40 Film: *Dying Room Only* (1973). A made-for-television thriller
starring the excellent Cloris Leachman (once a member of Mel
Brooks's acting 'family') as a woman stranded in the desert by
the mysterious disappearance of her husband (Philip Colman).
With Ross Martin and Ned Beatty. Directed by Philip Leacock.
Northern Ireland: Film — The Two Faces of Dr Jekyll

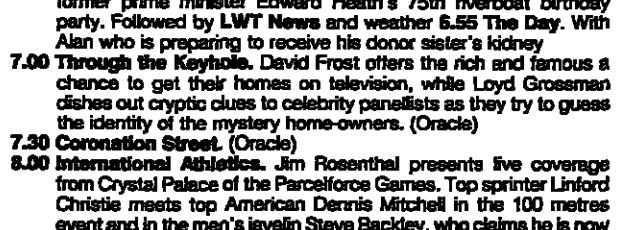
6.45 Open University: Science — Rats and Super Rats. Ends at 7.10
8.00 News 8.15 Weather
9.00 Film: *The Five Pennies* (1959) starring Danny Kaye. A biography
of Dilettante comedian Loring 'Red' Nichols, being shown as a
tribute to Louis Armstrong who died 20 years ago this week.
Directed by Melville Shavelson
10.05 Golf. Second round action from the Ball's Scottish Open
12.00 *Defying Destruction*. Vivian White tells why the incidence of
fatal motorway accidents continues to rise (r)
12.30 *Starmen*. The training of Forester, Nottinghamshire
police's latest equine addition (r) 1.00 Arthur Negus Enjoys.
Arthur Negus and Bernard Potts visit the original Jacobean section
of Goodwood House (r) 1.20 *Pinemass* (r)
1.35 *Weekend Outlook* (r) 1.40 Look, Stranger, in the Footsteps of
Tessa. A look at Dorset through the eyes of Thomas Hardy's Tessa
of the D'Urbervilles (r)
2.00 News and weather 2.30 *Thames News* headlines 3.25 The
Scottish Open. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50
6.00 Film: *Follow That Camel* (1967). A highly enjoyable and typically
silly addition to the Carry On series that benefits from the presence
of Phil Sivers as compulsive Sgt Nocker. Directed by Gerald
Thomas. (Coeur)
7.30 *Animation Now*. Jaberwocky by Czech surrealist Jan
Svankmajer
7.45 *What the Papers Say*. With Peter Miller
8.00 *East*. Current affairs series focusing on Asian topics in Britain and
abroad, presented by Shyma Perera and Krishnan Gurusamy.
Includes an item on arranged marriages
8.30 *Gardens of the World*. A report from the British Rose Festival, part
of the second Hampton Court International flower show
9.00 *Camie Aides*. Joking Apart.
● CHOICE: A pilot sitcom from Steven Moffat charts the
disintegrating marriage of a television comedy writer. Moffat is a
TV writer who has recently been divorced but we are assured that
the piece is not autobiographical. With its explicit sexual
references, *Joking Apart* is a long way from Moffat's children's
series, *Press Gang*, for which he won two BAFTA awards. Robert
Bathurst plays Mark, who sees life as a stand-up comedy routine
and conducts his conversations in punchlines. His lawfully
wedded straight man, as she wisely calls herself, is played by
Fiona Giles. The comedy is decidedly dark. Mark hates people
who talk about babies' weights, lack of cupboard space and
getting stuck in traffic and has a pointed view of showing it. He is
pretty handsome but frequently funny with it. More scripts have
been commissioned and Mark should have no difficulty
extending the pilot to a series.



At loggerheads: Fiona Giles and Robert Bathurst (8.00pm)

9.30 Director: Alan Clarke
● CHOICE: Alan Clarke was a strong minded
and uncompromising film maker who never fitted in easily with his
television masters. Sometimes the collision was head on. His gritty
version of Roy Minton's *Borstal* play, *Scum*, was banned by the
BBC and had to be made all over again for the cinema. But out of
the creative tensions emerged some of the most compelling
television drama of the last 20 years, exploring a range of
contemporary themes from the trouble on Northern Ireland to
disaffected youth. Controversial in theme, innovative in style,
Clarke's work was guaranteed to pull the viewer up short. His
dramas were seldom comfortable. Clarke died last year of cancer
while still in his fifties. This profile accompanies a BBC2
retrospective, which continues tomorrow with *Made in Britain*, a
typically forthright portrait of a young skinhead. The programme is
introduced by David Leland, the writer of *Made in Britain* and two
other Clarke films
10.00 *Building Heights*. Alan Bennett takes a look at the exotic County
Arcade in Leeds, built by Frank Matcham in 1900 (r)
10.30 *Nightwatch* with John Simpson 11.15 *Weather*
11.20 Film: *The Army in the Shadows* (1969). An adaptation of the
novel by Joseph Kessel, set in France in October 1942. Philippe
Gérard (Lino Ventura) is arrested by the Vichy authorities and sent
to a prison camp before being handed over to the Gestapo.
However, Gérard is determined to escape and takes down the
informer who betrayed him. With Paul Meurisse, Simone Signoret
and Jean-Pierre Cassel. Directed by Jean-Pierre Melville. A French
film with English subtitles. Ends at 1.40am

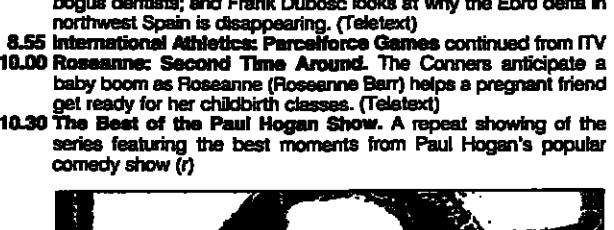
6.00 TV-am
9.25 *All Cried Up*. Game show for couples, presented by David
Hamilton 9.55 *Thames News* and weather
10.00 *Out of This World*. American sitcom about earth-bound aliens
10.30 *This Morning*. Family magazine series
12.10 *Rabbits*. Entertaining children's education series (r)
12.30 *News* with John Sutherland. Weather 1.10 *Thames News* and
weather
1.20 *Home and Away*. 1.50 *A Country Practice*. Australian medical
series set in a rural community health centre
2.20 *Divorcing Daddy*. In the third of a four-part series women who
have lost custody of their children through divorce talk about their
experiences 2.50 *Country Connections*. Game show hosted by
Chris Tarrant with guests Gabriella Drake, Bella Emberg, Steve
Jones and Sylvester McCoy, plus team leaders Paula Wilcox and
Simon Williams
3.15 *ITN News* headlines 3.20 *Thames News* headlines 3.25 The
Young Doctors. Australian medical drama
3.55 *Neille the Elephant*. Cartoon (r) 4.00 *Red R*. Red Bull is
joined by the hyperactive Australian bird 4.15 *The Magic Crown*.
Animated sword and sorcery drama series



Refereeing the celebrities: Dave Lee Travis, centre (4.00pm)

4.40 Go Gossamer. The first of a new series and Dave Lee Travis sends
three celebrity teams off around the countryside to complete a
series of crazy challenges. Among those appearing are Linda
Hamley of *Neighbours*, Michaela Strachan, Janice Long, Keith
Chuggin, cartoonist Bill Tidy and singer Sonia
5.10 *Home and Away* (r)
5.40 *News* with Fiona Armstrong. (Coeur) Weather
6.00 *ITN News* headlines 6.30 *Thames News* headlines 6.35 The
Michael Hutchence of rock group INXS and there is also film of
former prime minister Edward Heath's 75th birthday party.
Followed by LWT News and weather 6.55 *The Day*. With
Alan who is preparing to receive his donor sister's kidney
7.00 *Through the Keyhole*. David Frost offers the rich and famous a
chance to get their hair done on television, while Lloyd Grogan
dishes out cryptic clues to celebrity pastimes as they try to guess
the identity of the mystery home-owners. (Coeur)
7.30 *Coronation Street*. (Coeur)
8.00 *International Athletics*. Jim Rosenthal presents five coverage
from Crystal Palace of the Paracellor Games. Top sprinter Linford
Christie meets top American Dennis Mitchell in the 100 metre
event and in the men's javelin Steve Backley, who claims he is now
90 per cent fit after injury, plans his comeback. Among the women
competing are the Commonwealth sprint champion Merete Ottey,
the exciting German Katrin Krabbe, Yvonne Murray and the
American Mary Slaney. The commentators are Alan Parry, Steve
Ovett and Peter Matthews
8.00 *Rich Tea & Sympathy*. Comedy drama series about a career-
minded doctor, Patricia Hodge, a besuited factory boss (Denis
Quillley) and their blossoming romance
10.00 *News* at Ten with Trevor McDonald and Alastair Stewart. (Coeur)
Weather 10.35 LWT News and weather followed by *The Day*
10.40 *The London Programme*. Presenter Trevor Phillips charts the rise
and fall of business tycoon George Walker
11.00 *The Games*. Danny Baker presents a look at soccer at grass roots
level, from the East London Sunday League's Dick Cockup Cup,
with the Young Prince 'B' and Thomas Neale teams contesting the
first semi-final
11.40 *Beauty and the Beast*. Return of the feeble fable about a
beautiful young lawyer and a man-beast who lives in subterranean
New York. Vincent (Ron Perlman) races to save Catherine (Linda
Hamilton), who has been abducted by the powerful leader of a vast
beastly criminal empire
1.30am *Real Live* 911. William Shatner introduces a documentary series
with real-life action film of America's emergency services at work
2.25 *CinemAttractions*. Charlie Tuna presents a review of the latest
US cinema releases
2.55 *Night Beat*. Rock music video show
3.55 *Soap*. American comedy series featuring the outrageous Tate and
Campbell families (r)
4.25 *Beach Volleyball*
5.30 *Spectacular Sportscoopers & Feb Fools*
5.30 *ITN Morning News* with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00

6.00 The Channel Four Daily
9.25 *Film: The Star Packer* (1934, b/w). A low-budget western starring
John Wayne as John Weston, a US marshal who rides incognito
into a frontier town under threat from a gang headed by a
mysterious figure known as the Shadow. After saving a beleaguered
stagecoach, Wayne decides to take the office of sheriff and is
assisted by sidekick Yulma Curnutt and the beautiful Verma Hille.
Directed by Robert North Braddock
10.30 *Broken Silence*. New Life. The series of documentary films from
Spain exploring animal behaviour continues with this look at the
struggle for life immediately after birth (r)
11.00 *As It Happens*. Michael Groth visits the Highland Games (r)
12.00 *The Parliament Programme* presented by Sue Cameron
12.30 *Business Daily* introduced by Susanah Sayers
1.00 *Sesame Street*. Educational fun for the young. The guest star is
Jeff Goldblum (r)
2.00 *Painted Tales: Tropical Storm With Tiger*. Original series of
animated stories aiming to arouse an interest in art (r)
2.15 *Easy Does It*. Gentle exercises for the over-fifties, with Pat
Rowlandson (r)
2.30 *Channel 4 Racing* from York. Live coverage of the 2.35, 3.10,
3.40 and 4.10 races introduced by Derek Thompson
4.30 *Countdown*. More of the popular words and numbers game with
Richard Whiteley
5.00 *I Love Lucy* (b/w). Classic American sitcom starring Lucille Ball
and Desi Arnaz Jr
5.30 *Greek Fire*. A ten-part series focusing on the ways that the
Ancient Greeks influenced our lives today. Today, a look at the
Greek's open and even hedonistic attitude to sex in contrast to
some people's view of sex as dirty, degrading and sinful (r).
(Teletext)
6.00 *Kate & Allie*. Sitcom about two divorced women sharing a
Greenwich Village apartment (r)
6.30 *Tour de France*. The seventh stage — from Le Havre to Argentan
— a distance of 165km
7.00 *Channel 4 News* presented by Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi.
(Teletext) Weather
7.50 *First Reaction*. Writers Jonathan Glancey and Charles Jencks
chart contrasting opinions on the new extension to the National
Gallery
8.00 *Brookside*. Realistic Liverpool soap. (Teletext)
8.30 *Europe Express*. Magazine series which goes behind the
headlines to look at the changing lives of European people in the
Nineties. Stefan Rytar is in Macedonia to report on how
Yugoslavia's poor reputation is fading during the 1990s. The
journalist Stefan Rytar reports from Rome on the scandal of Italy's
bogus dentist, and Frank Duboc looks at why the Ebro delta in
northwest Spain is disappearing. (Teletext)
8.55 *International Athletics: Paracellor Games* continued from ITV
10.00 *Roseanne*. Second Time Around. The Connors anticipate a
baby boom as Roseanne (Roseanne Barr) helps a pregnant friend
get ready for her childbirth classes. (Teletext)
10.30 *The Best of the Paul Hogan Show*. A repeat showing of the
series featuring the best moments from Paul Hogan's popular
comedy show (r)



Leading a communal rehearsal: Michael Hutchence (11.00pm)

11.00 Film: Dogs in Space (1986). A film about the late Seventies punk
scene in Australia starring Michael Hutchence, lead singer with the
band INXS. Most of the action is set in the basement of a
Melbourne house, where the band Dogs in Space rehearse, and in
which lead singer Sam (Hutchence), his girlfriend Anna (Suzanne
Post) and a collection of vegetarians, punks and students all live.
While the film seems fairly aimless on the surface, the script is the
condensed result of many hours of interviews and represents the
crystallisation of a little understood and highly principled way of
life. Directed by Richard Lowenstein
1.00am *Tour de France*. A repeat of the programme shown at 6.30.
Ends at 1.30

SKY SPORTS
● Via the Astra and Marquillo satellites.
1.30pm Motor World 2.00 Cricket 4.00 Golf
5.00 Sky Sports 6.00 Soccer 7.00 Live 8.00
World Student Games 8.00 Cricket Preview
10.00 Australian Rules Football 12.00 World
Student Games 1.00am Cricket Preview

EUROSPORT
● Via the Astra satellite.
10.00am Live Tennis 2.00pm Live
Cycling Tour de France 3.30 Live Tennis
4.00 Golf Scottish Open 6.00 Cycling
Tour de France Highlights 6.30 European
News 7.00 Mountain Bike 7.30 Tennis
Golfed 8.00 Live Boxing Games: Magill v
Williams 8.30 Cycling Tour de France
Highlights 10.30 Eurosport News

SCREENSPORT
● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am Copa America 1991 8.30 News 9.00
Ally Ally 9.30 Moto News 10.00 Karate

MTV
● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

"The Times Literary Supplement is an amazing journal... Its high standards, its careful balance and its astonishing range make it indispensable for anyone interested in writing or thought."

Bernard Levin on The Times Literary Supplement

TS
every Friday

ANGLIA
As London except 5.10pm-5.40 The
Masters Today 8.00 Home and Away 8.25-
7.00 Anglia News 10.00 Whistle 11.10
Manned With Children 12.10 Film: *Handing
Over* 1.30 Video View 2.30 Video of World 3.00
Friday the 13th 4.00 Beach Volleyball 5.00-
5.30 Inter Bang

BORDER
As London except 6.00pm Lookaround
Friday 6.30-7.00 Video the High Road 10.10
Coch 11.10 in the Heat of the Night 12.05
The Sweeney 1.05 Video High Road and the
Coronets 2.10 The Young Riders 3.00 Night
Beat 4.00-5.30 Film: The Odd Job

CENTRAL
As London except 5.10pm-5.40 Katts and
Dog 6.00 Home and Away 8.25-7.00 Central
News 10.10 Film: *Handing Over* 1.30 Video
View 2.30 Video of World 3.00 Night Beat
4.00-5.30 Film: The Odd Job

GRANADA
As London except 5.10pm-5.40 It Ain't
Cricket 6.00 Home and Away 6.30-7.00
Gemma Troughton 10.10 in the Heat of the
Night 11.05 Stand Up 12.05 The Young
Riders 1.05 Film: *Handing Over* 2.10 The
Young Riders 3.00 Night Beat 4.00-5.30
Film: The Odd Job

HITV WALES
As London except 6.00pm Wales at Six
6.30-7.00 Video View 2.30 Video of World 3.00
Night Beat 4.00-5.30 Film: The Odd Job

SCOTTISH
As London except 6.00pm-6.30 News and
Weather 6.30-7.00 Video View 2.30 Video of
World 3.00 Night Beat 4.00-5.30 Film: The
Odd Job

TSW
As London except 1.50pm-2.20 The
Sweeney 3.20-3.55 Home and Away 5.10-
5.40 Tied 6.00 TSW Today 6.30-7.00
Video View 2.30 Video of World 3.00 Night
Beat 4.00-5.30 Film: The Odd Job

TVS
As London except 2.50pm-2.30 Country-
side Chase 3.25-3.55 News and Daughters

2.00 Coast to Coast 6.30-7.00 The
Gardens of the World 7.10-7.30
Adolf Hitler — My Part in His Downfall 1.30
Osway Keston's Rock & Roll Classics 2.00
The Young Riders 3.00 Night Beat 4.00-5.30
Film: The Odd Job

TYNE TEES
As London except 6.00pm Northern Live
6.30-7.00 The Man Who Began the Beguine
10.40-11.10 The Young Riders 11.10-11.40
Night Beat 4.00-5.30 Film: The Odd Job

ULSTER
As London except 1.50pm-2.20 Daytime
Green 6.00 Six 7.00-7.30 The Sweeney
Championship 10.30 Tenth Night 11.00
Beauty and the Beast 12.00 Stephen King's
World of Horror 1.05 Film: *Handing Over* 2.10
The Young Riders 3.00 Night Beat 4.00-5.30
Film: The Odd Job

YORKSHIRE
As London except 1.50pm-2.20 Graham
Fox 6.00-6.30 News 6.30-7.00 The Sweeney
Championship 10.40 Film: *Handing Over* 1.30
Video View 2.30 Video of World 3.00 Night
Beat 4.00-5.30 Film: The Odd Job

84C
Starts 6.00am C4 Daily 9.25 Stereo

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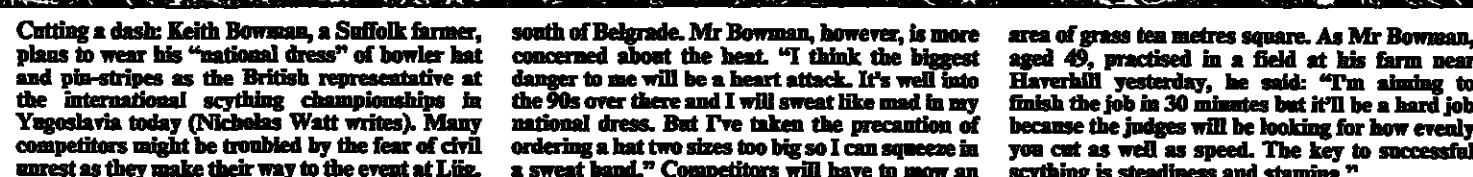
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TYNE TEES
As London except 6.00pm Northern Live
6.30-7.00 The Man Who Began

By MICHAEL DYNES
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

British Rail has, however, defended the reliability and punctuality of the new service, insisting that with the exception of a few teething problems normally associated with the introduction of revised timetables, the new service has been "very encouraging".



By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

John Davies, a retired Exeter architect living in France, said: "I came out here three years ago, and like all Englishmen, I missed the BBC. I bought a decoder for £250 so that I could receive it and now they have suddenly changed it to something I'm not in-

The BBC, which has also received complaints from expatriate viewers from Marbella to Tuscany, insists that the service is highly popular with those viewers it is meant for — English-speaking foreigners.

Hugh Williams, WSTV's director of programmes, said: "It pleases the international audience and that's what counts."

but the plane caught fire in mid-air. Witnesses saw smoke and fire coming from the plane as it came in to land and said flames shot hundreds of feet into the air as it crashed to the ground, scattering wreckage over a wide area. None fell on the airport's three runways, which continued to operate, according to airport officials.

One witness described the scene as a "medley of trailers, ambulances, fire brigades,

Third World countries unused to air travel. To cope with these logistical, miles of underground air-conditioned walkways and hundreds of hotels and guest houses have been built.

The Saudi royal family, which describes itself as the custodian of Islam's holiest shrines and takes great prestige in a successful Haj, had viewed this year's pilgrimage

Continued from page 1
Commons before it rises for the summer recess. It will bring him into conflict with Labour authorities, who earlier this week called for an increase of 10 per cent or £1 billion. The RSG announcement is the first brick in the government's public spending wall for the following year. The right nature of the loca-

Oil tax rise

held at £10

Commons before it rises for the summer recess. The bill brings him into conflict with Labour authorities, who earlier this week called for an increase of 10 per cent in the RSG annual grant. The first brick in the government's public spending wall for the following year. The tight nature of the

The sources said yesterday that the spending round was proving unusually "rough and tough", but denied that the "no growth" deal reached by the environment secretary amounted to a defeat for him.

A 4 per cent rise would mean an increase in cash terms in total local authority spending of about £1.6 billion.

Concise Crossword, page 17

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Hong Kong & Canton	13,231	12,251	Central Midlands	711
Italy	1,145	1,075	East Midlands	712
Italy/Lis	23,621	21,450	East of England	713
Japan/Yen	22,040	22,250	East of Scotland	714
Scandinavia/Gld	3,455	3,255	Dryad & Powys	715
Norway/Rk	12,294	11,425	Gwynedd & Chwyd	716
Portugal/Est	26,255	27,255	W W England	717
Spain/Rk	19,175	17,255	W & S Yorkshire	718
Spain/Rk	50,510	48,250	N England	719
Sweden/Rk	11,115	10,435	Cumbria & Lake District	720
Switzerland/Fr	22,255	21,255	W Scotland	721
Turkey/Lis	7,690	6,690	W Central Scotland	722
USA	17,715	16,715	Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	723
Ukraine/Rk	40,510	40,510	E Central Scotland	724

*Prices for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

STANDARD

Yesterday: Temp: max 8m to 6pm, 18C (64F), min 5pm to 8am, 10C (50F). Rain: 54% (10.4mm). Sun: 24% (4.8mm).

Weather: is charged at 34p per minute (cheap rates) and 45p per minute at all other times.

Information supplied by Met Office

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**WEEKEND
MONEY
TOMORROW**

PROFILE



At home, Sir David Lees is an obsessive mower of lawns. At work, as head of GKN, natural instinct ensures the company runs smoothly, despite the recession. He talks to Gillian Bowditch

STUDENT CRISIS

Students face their worst financial crisis in years, with little hope of finding summer jobs to pay soaring debts, Liz Dolan writes

COMPENSATION

Fear of a Labour government is stopping investment groups putting money into new-style personal equity plans (Peeps) announced in the last Budget, Lindsay Cook, Money Editor, reports

**Sidestep by
Major in
top pay row**

THE prime minister yesterday distanced himself from the latest row about big pay rises for top managers. Challenged in the Commons about the 181 per cent increase for Bryan Weston, Manweb's chairman, Mr Major said: "It's a matter for the companies and not for me." But he stressed that pay awards should "reflect what is reasonable". Sir Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Antardiff) led Labour's attack.

He told Mr Major: "How do you explain the statement by the latest power chief to receive a big pay rise, Mr Weston of Manweb, that the government knew full well that his salary would soar?"

THE POUND

US dollar 1.6055 (-0.0170)
German mark 2.9453 (+0.0037)
Exchange index 89.5 (-0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1928.4 (+10.3)
FT-SE 100 2510.5 (+2.1)
New York Dow Jones 2948.79 (+4.02)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 2293.92 (-183.38)

MAJOR CHANGES

RISERS:
Lloyds 341.15p (+7.0)
J Smith 571.15p (+7.0)
WPP 101.25p (+0.5)
Pearson 70.0p (+0.5)
Tarmac 220.15p (+0.5)
Turner 43.0p (+1.0)
Aptiv 305.15p (+1.0)
WH Smith 305.15p (+1.0)
Lindred 73.0p (+0.5)
Macarthy 25.0p (+0.5)
Reuter 79.15p (+1.0)
Charter Cons 45.75p (+0.5)
Courtauld 43.0p (+1.0)
Williams Holdings 37.15p (+1.0)
Park Foods 2.15p (+0.05)
FALLS:
Beazer 5.0p (-1.15p)
Unilever 74.75p (-1.5p)
Arcadian 1.0p (-0.1p)
Tipton 47.5p (-5.0)
ADT 48.0p (-1.0p)
Closing Prices...Page 27

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 11.5%
3-month Interbank: 11.10%
3-month eligible bills: 10.25-10.5%
US Prime Rate: 8.75%
Federal Funds: 5.75%
3-month Treasury Bills: 5.57-5.58%
30-year bonds: 9.57-9.58%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£: \$1.6055
£: DM1.6330
£: Sfr2.5544
£: Sfr2.5544
£: FFfr.2145
£: Yen138.55
£: Index: 89.5
ECU: 10.66854
ECU: 10.66854
ECU: 10.66854

GOLD

London: 368.25-368.30
New York: 368.25-368.30
Comex: 368.25-368.30

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (July) \$19.20 bid (\$19.35)
Dated latest trading price

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 133.5 May (1987=100)

Luxembourg admits it could not cope with BCCI fraud

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE government of Luxembourg, responsible for monitoring 180 banks that will be able to operate throughout the European Community, has admitted its systems could not cope with fraud and deception as alleged to have been discovered at the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, whose main holding company was registered in the Grand Duchy.

Jacques Santer, the prime minister, said the problem with BCCI was that the regulatory authorities had been the victims of a deliberate deception. "This confirms past experience: whenever the authorities are

faced with organised criminal activity, the normal controls of a state based on law are insufficient to prevent deception. That is the price you pay for a state based on law."

Fraud at BCCI was eventually uncovered by the Bank of England, although Luxembourg was responsible under international banking agreements. The Bank applied provisions of the Banking Act designed to improve information and control by using auditors to report problems and act as investigating agents for the bank.

Pierre Jaans, head of the Luxembourg monetary institute, confirmed that "we were not equipped for BCCI and it is keeping us very busy". Mr Jaans has a total staff

of only 40. He denied, however, that Luxembourg was not equipped to carry out its responsibilities in the single market, whereby banks authorised in one EC country will have a passport to operate in the others.

Mr Jaans said: "Generally, we can cope. The banks here are respectable. I see no relation between the number of bank inspectors and the efficiency of regulation."

Luxembourg contends that BCCI was a wholly special case because only a tiny proportion of its operations were there. Mr Jaans said changes in the law might be needed to prevent a holding company setting up in Luxembourg for operations

that were essentially elsewhere. Even this was denied by Mr Santer. The prime minister told the Luxembourg parliament that recent changes to the law and adaptations to practice could prevent a bank with the structure of BCCI being headquartered in Luxembourg, and that no changes were planned to tighten regulation or increase protection for creditors.

Doubts have arisen over the validity of the blanket insurance bond raised by BCCI through the Adamjee Insurance Company of Karachi, which would, among other things, cover fraud and theft by employees. Mohammed Chaudhury, managing director of Adamjee, said the cover had

automatically ended on the appointment of liquidators to BCCI. This is standard practice. It is not clear, however, whether any fraud by employees made before that date but not notified to the insurer before the liquidator came in would be covered, since policies vary on this point.

In London, Peter Thurston, who heads a team dealing with BCCI employee affairs for Touche Ross, the liquidator, wrote to most of the group's 1,200 British employees of an emergency hardship payment he hopes to make on Tuesday as an advance on their July salary. Employees who do not receive letters by Monday are being urged to ring the advice line on (071) 480-7766.

Inflation data should allow half-point fall

Bundesbank clears way for UK rate cut

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BY LEAVING its key lending rates unchanged, the Bundesbank cleared the way for Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, to sanction a fresh cut in British interest rates to coincide with today's inflation figures.

A fresh cut should quieten the political and market clamour for easing the monetary reins to extract the economy from deep recession.

Although the pound ended below its DM2.95 mid-point in the European exchange-rate mechanism yesterday, City economists did not expect sterling's position to prevent base rates being lowered by another half point to 11 per cent.

John Major, who would have already seen the latest

inflation data, said yesterday that inflation would continue to fall. Forecasts for the retail prices index for June centre on an annual rise of 5.7 per cent, against May's 5.8 per cent.

The German central bank's decision to leave its interest rates as they were, in spite of inflationary pressures, came at the last council session chaired by Karl Otto Pöhl, the outgoing president.

As the session was the last before the bank's five-week summer recess, Michael Samuels, economist at Salomon Brothers, said Mr Lamont now had a "window of opportunity until August 15 to cut interest rates, possibly in two half-point falls". He expects the Bundesbank will tighten policy after its holiday.

While the Bundesbank left its discount and Lombard

lending rates untouched, it sought to underline its determination to keep policy tight, despite American calls for global easing, by narrowing the target growth range for M3, its broad money supply measure, to 3 to 5 per cent from 4 to 6 per cent.

But the German authorities had already made clear their M3 target was 4 per cent for this year, and the narrowing of the range leaves the mid-point unchanged at 4 per cent.

A Bundesbank statement said it would "continue to pursue monetary policies... in a way which closely limits price pressures from home and abroad and at the same time sets the monetary conditions for steady economic growth".

The German economy is estimated to have grown 5 per cent in the second quarter of this year, as the government continued to pump in billions of marks to rebuild eastern states.

Official figures for Germany's balance of payments moved back to a surplus of DM839 million in May from a deficit of DM568 million in April, reflecting a big capital account surplus.

Japan's trade surplus with the European Community rose by nearly 50 per cent to \$4.73 billion in June. The overall trade surplus widened to \$7.26 billion from a \$6.67 billion surplus in June last year.

Industry expects a 2 per cent point cut in interest rates now that inflation is heading down to German-style levels. John Banham, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, said yesterday.

Mr Banham said "I am convinced that the biggest problem we face is not private sector inflation, the original justification for high interest rates, or even incompetent management of British business. Rather it is lack of confidence in ourselves and in the future."



Pöhl: last meeting

Asda spurns rights as profits fall

By MATTHEW BOND

ASDA Group, the supermarket company, had no rights issue, no chairman and no chief executive as it unveiled a 4.3 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £168.3 million. The lack of chief executive had been expected. John Hardman resigned from that post a month ago and Asda is still looking for a replacement. The lack of chairman was not expected, given that Sir Godfrey Messervy, the former chairman of Lucas Industries, had replaced Mr Hardman. Yesterday, however, Sir Godfrey was still recovering from a mild heart attack.

The lack of a rights issue was also hard to forecast, as Asda's three competitors had collectively set £1.5 billion

worth of precedent. Asda finished its March year-end with net borrowings of £875 million, for gearing of 72 per cent. Kenneth Morton, a non-executive director, said: "We recognise that we have got a relatively high level of borrowings, but we're under no pressure."

Profits fell below the £170 million minimum forecast by the board a month ago after provision was made for the additional interest that will be paid if, as expected, holders of a low yielding convertible bond exercise a put option.

An unchanged final dividend of 2.95p gives a maintained total of 4.8p.

Times, page 23

Rank slides to £96m

By MICHAEL TATE, CITY EDITOR

HALVED profits from film and television and a sharp increase in tax left Rank Organisation with barely enough earnings at the end of the six months to May 18 to cover a maintained interim dividend payment.

Pre-tax profits at the cinemas-to-caravans and video-to-office copiers group fell to £96 million (£137.6 million) and after a 45 per cent tax charge, compared with 34 per cent a year ago, earnings emerged at

11.3p (34.2p). The interim dividend was held at 10.25p.

Despite debts of £1 billion, Michael Gifford, the chief executive, said the group's balance sheet was healthy. Gearing is thought to be a shade over 50 per cent.

Rank's film division was hit by poor video sales and a drop in orders for its film equipment. Profits plunged to £8.4 million (£17.1 million).



Pöhl: last meeting

Storehouse lambs break the silence

By ROSS THIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SHAREHOLDERS at Storehouse once stood at annual meetings bleating about the poor results like sheep in a slaughterhouse. Today, their mood is different.

Although still penned in by a spiral of declining profits, their challenges are increasingly well targeted. Outrage has been replaced by a determination eventually to compel their shepherds to open a gate to greener pastures.

Ian Hay Davison, firmly ensconced as chairman in place of Sir Terence Conran, has gained a little gale, however, in managing his unruly flock.

Yesterday's annual meeting, at the Royal Lancaster Hotel in London, was notable for the civility and detail of both questions from the floor and answers from the board. But the message from Mr Hay Davison remains harsh: "It is

now inevitable that we will make a loss in the first half."

The second half was still impossible to forecast. Sales during the first three months of the current year were 8 per cent down on last year. The results of the second half would depend entirely on when the economy began to improve, and consumer confidence recovered.

The group, however, had been reduced from 11 businesses to a core of five, and stocks of summer goods were being ruthlessly cleared by discounting.

His shareholders knew all about that. BHS, the once-proud British Home Stores, looked "like a bazaar, a poor imitation of C&A Modes, with permanent discounting," one declared.

"I can appreciate your comments," responded David Dworkin, chairman and chief executive of BHS. He certainly was not going to deny them. In 1988,

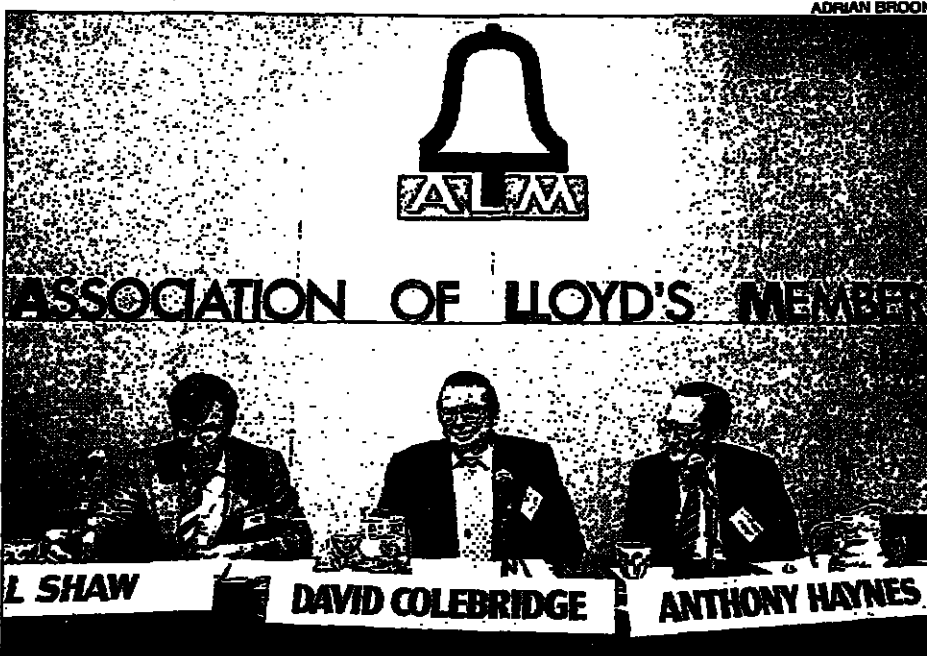
there were goods in the stockrooms that were four years old, the meeting heard. The directors were determined to avoid that at all costs, and discounts were the consequence.

The most dangerous attack came on the matter of salaries. Simon Blunt, a shareholder, noted the 63 per cent rise in directors' pay since 1986, while trading profits had slumped from £123 million to £21 million. Mr Hay Davison was quick on his feet. With the exception of Mr Dworkin, directors had taken a 10 per cent cut last year.

When it came to the vote, the re-appointment of three directors was approved on a show of hands, but dissenters were numerous.

And so they are likely to remain, until the day profits begin, once more, to rise.

Comment, page 23



The Lloyd's insurance market had another problem with its names yesterday...



... as David Colebridge, oops Coleridge, the chairman, was quick to point out

Lloyd's ponders what is in a name

LLOYD'S names, having been asked to bear losses of £510 million in a single year, could be forgiven for losing their sense of humour.

Yet David Coleridge, the chairman of Lloyd's who admits having lost large sums of money himself, retains an ability to raise a chuckle. Commenting on underwriters, not the most popular people among Lloyd's members, he suggested one reason why losses had been so catastrophic was that "their private line to the Almighty has been cut".

Perhaps it was just as well Mr Coleridge, whose last appearance before names lasted four hours, could still look on the bright side. He arrived at the annual national conference of the Association of Lloyd's Members to find his name misspelled as Colebridge. Nothing personal: Antony Haynes, the association chairman, was billed as Anthony.

Neil Shaw's name was spelled correctly. A Lloyd's name since 1980 - "I have had good and bad experiences," he said, without disclosing his losses - Mr Shaw, chairman of Tate & Lyle, was chosen to question Mr Coleridge on behalf of the 500 names at the meeting at London's Grosvenor House.

Both admitted to being apprehensive as the session got underway. Mr Shaw revealed that had the invitation arrived after the events of June, when Lloyd's announced record losses for the 1988 year, he would have declined.

Val Powell, the association's chief executive, was delighted Mr Shaw, a Canadian, had not withdrawn. "Mr Shaw is a well-paid professional, the head of a large multinational company. We could do with more like him," he said.

ADT price slumps by 130p

By COLIN CAMPBELL

SHARES in ADT, the security and car auction group, plummeted by 130p to 480p - a record low - after an assessment of lower profits reported by Laidlaw, which has 28 per cent of ADT.

Laidlaw said its profits setback was due to poorer results at ADT, for which Laidlaw has now accounted. Investors were nervous ahead of an ADT statement last night that was expected to explain that it suffered lower profits last year, but that this was well known in the market, and the profits drop to which Laidlaw refers was not, therefore, new.

ADT is applying for a New York Stock Exchange listing. Under accounting rules, net earnings are shown after various write-offs, and turn out at 20 cents a share against \$2.15. The national fall further upset investors on both sides of the Atlantic.

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Simon Redman, Chairman

	1991 (53 weeks) £000	1990 (52 weeks) £000	Increase %
Turnover	126,259	109,161	+16
Trading Profit	23,085	18,230	+27
Profit before tax	22,057	20,136	+10
Earnings per share	38.2p	34.1p	+12
Dividend per share	10.8p	9.8p	+10

GREENE KING PLC

Copy of the 1990/91 Annual Report can be obtained from The Company Secretary, Westgate Brewery, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, IP28 1UT

100

Whatever happened to corporate governance? The phrase is ever present whenever City leaders gather to discuss the serious business of their responsibilities as shareholders in the nation's most important businesses. Yet in the case of Storehouse, the ill-fated BHS, Habitat and Mothercare retail operation, there seems little evidence that theory is being translated into practice.

Years after Sir Terence Conran stitched the three companies together, the misery goes on. Ian Hay Davison, the chairman, told shareholders there would be a loss in the first half year and made no promises for the final six months. For yet another year, investors face the prospect of little or no profit from well in excess of £1 billion of sales. Surely it is time for more radical solutions for a company that had little logic when it was cobbled together and has long since exhausted the patience of its owners?

As you would expect from financial heavyweights like Mr Hay Davison and chief executive Michael Julien, former finance

director at Midland Bank, the accounts are in good shape, with no net borrowings whatsoever. If the group cannot retail its way to respectable profitability, then shareholders might reasonably ask their board to unlock some value through disposals. At least the interest on the proceeds might improve matters.

It would be surprising if these thoughts had not occurred to the board of Storehouse. Its decision to keep the three main profit centres together tells its own story.

Institutions have been here before, when Woolworth was the sick man of the high street. The Paternoster reconstruction has paid off handsomely. Ironically, Woolworth, in its new guise as Kingfisher, might well be a strong bidder for some parts of Storehouse, especially the Mothercare children's clothing business.

Storehouse shares, once well over 400p, dipped below 100p

Time to call time at Storehouse

COMMENT

last month and the message is still that of jam tomorrow. Enough is surely enough.

1992 worry

The complacency of the Luxembourg authorities in the face of the collapse of their most controversial bank must be causing worry in Brussels and in the community's central banks. Investors would also be wise to note it for future reference in an era when the imprimatur of Luxembourg for financial institutions will formally be as valid as British or French equivalents.

The erst prime minister Jacques Santer's studied reply yesterday was that the monetary watchdog assumed bankers were honest and could not be expected

to cope with fraud. This is not quite what the British investor is likely to mean by adequate financial regulation.

Fraud at BCCI, according to the Price Waterhouse report that spurred the Bank of England to act, was sufficiently widespread to make BCCI too rotten to be saved by cash from Abu Dhabi. Most of this fraud, however, seems to have been of the classic type — an attempt to cover up losses. The frauds stemmed from trading difficulties more than they caused them.

That is precisely what any bank inspector or supervisor should be trained to watch for and prevent. There was every reason for a bank with BCCI's spread of business to have troubles so any bank supervisor would expect to find them and judge them closely, even if they

did not appear in accounts prepared for public purposes.

Supervisors spend most of their time dealing with, advising, and, if necessary, warning, honest bankers. But honesty cannot be assumed. Luxembourg is a small country, but has a sophisticated financial centre and has been persuaded to tighten its procedures. If the result is so inadequate, the European passport will not be worth the paper it is written on and investors and depositors would be wise to stick to the institutions their own governments or central banks are known to stand behind.

Tender trap

If commercial television has given rise to one memorable quote since it was launched in the Sixties it is surely the "licence to print money" phrase coined by the late Lord Thomson of Fleet. By an odd twist of fate, Lord

Thomson's company, Scottish Television, appears to be on the point of receiving a second licence on highly favourable terms.

STV took something of a gamble against the late entry of a rival in the blind franchise auction and decided to bid less than £1 million. The verdict of the market when the news emerged was a 14 per cent rise in STV shares, a gain which may be extended when the full import sinks in.

If the tender process goes to plan, STV is likely to fund itself spinning off cash at a great rate. If it chooses, the company may plough resources into programme making and become a significant network supplier or use the cash flow in other profitable ways.

Elsewhere, other companies may well have overbid for licences and find themselves under-resourced for the task of meeting the quality requirement and providing decent shareholder returns. It is unlikely that the much criticised blind process for awarding licences will emerge with any credibility left at all.

The beloved country cries out for new investment

THE path that beckons investors back into South Africa, unlike Alan Paton's "lovely road that runs from Ixopo into the hills", is going to be a lonely and a bumpy one.

The enthusiasm that swept the Johannesburg Stock Exchange to fresh highs on Wednesday, as President Bush lifted America's five-year-old investment ban, has faded. And even those British and American groups that have long-standing SA connections are cautious about what, if any, fresh investment plans they have in the beloved country that cries out for capital injection and its former place in world trade.

The scars of sanctions and the widespread withdrawal of foreign investment funds, compounded by the shortage of skilled labour, will take time to heal.

South Africa may be back in the world of sport and American investors are now technically free to invest again in the land of diamonds and gold. But the continued denial of access to the International Monetary Fund, and the difficulties that will have to be faced in securing international loans — when needed — suggest SA's investment appeal will be restrained for a while.

Unemployment, especially among the black population, remains high. Inflation is still locked in at 14-15 per cent, and uncertainty about the economic shape of the "new" SA, over which the African National Congress will have a decisive say, remains.

In economic terms, SA is a half-awake Rip van Winkle, but when fully awake, her potential cannot be denied. The financial infrastructure is sophisticated.

Trade between America and SA amounts to almost \$3 billion a year and America remains one of SA's leading trade partners. American subsidiaries operating in South Africa had \$2.6 billion in assets there in 1981 — down to \$1.5 billion today, says Wayne Mitchell, executive director of the American Chamber of Business in Johannesburg.

And while some were legally forced to quit SA, since 1985 about 270 American companies have sold up, if not sold



Waiting for South Africa's new economic dawn: Nelson Mandela and FW de Klerk

out to local interests, and 130 remain. Coca-Cola, General Motors and Citibank said yesterday they had no plans to go back. Several American municipalities and cities continue to boycott companies that do business in, or with, South Africa.

In Britain, Standard Chartered was first off the mark on Tuesday when it announced it would open a representative office in Johannesburg on August 1. Four years ago, Standard Chartered pulled down its flag, sold its banking interests to local shareholders, and shook the dust of South Africa off its feet.

Other banks are following. Robert Fleming Holdings expects to offer a full merchant banking service by the year-end. Barclays, SG Warburg, Hambros and Morgan Grenfell may not be far behind. British groups that did not rush for the airport in the Seventies and Eighties as pol-

itical, economic and investment pressure made annual meetings uncomfortable, are adopting a "wait and see" attitude to further investment.

RTZ and Lonrho, the mining groups, have long held their respective investments in Palabora Copper and Western Platinum — both still useful profit earners. Two years ago, RTZ acquired Richards Bay Minerals when it took over BP Minerals. BAT, with a 59 per cent stake in SA Eagle, the insurance group, and 63 per cent in Ulico, the tobacco group, has also remained in the South African sun, as have Unilever, Hanson and a host of insurance companies.

The Johannesburg stock market, tenth in the world by capitalisation, is not trivial, though the average dividend yield on industrial shares of 2.75 per cent, and the average price/earnings ratio of 13,

does not make the JSE a steal. The astute should consider the leaders such as Anglo American, Barlows, SA Breweries. Remember, too, the construction companies likely to share in the extensive national housing programme.

The potential attraction of other "new" territories, including eastern Europe, will be a strong pull on overseas investors' pockets, unless South Africa can demonstrate that its investment prospects are now as bright as her political ones.

Investment in South Africa will, however, not be a one-way street. Greater corporate activity can be expected from SA companies and businessmen anxious to strike up British partnerships, through takeovers or significant investment stakes, now that South Africa is no longer a dirty word, and few would say no to a farm in Africa.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Food is the key to conquering Asda debt mountain

WHILE its three peers — Argyl, J Sainsbury and Tesco — are all using newly raised equity to finance further expansion, Asda Group is still paying the price for having pursued the alternative strategy of using debt.

Debt is something that Asda has an awful lot of. At the year end it had net borrowings of £875 million and gearing of 72 per cent — the seemingly immovable legacy of its £705 million purchase of 60 Gateway supermarkets two years ago. The level of debt was little changed from the year before and, without a rights issue or a significant sale and lease-back deal — both of which currently look improbable — is likely to be little changed in another 12 months.

The year-end level of debt may be little changed, but the interest charge has risen £55 million to £85.5 million, reflecting the full-year burden of carrying the Gateway debt compared with seven months of pain the year before. Although operating profits rose 16 per cent to £262 million, the higher interest charge affected pre-tax profits, which in the year to April 27 fell 4.3 per cent to £168 million, in line with the forecast the company made a month ago at the time

of the departure of John Hardman, the former chief executive.

While food has proved relatively immune from the retail recession, Asda's non-food activities, with the notable exception of the clothing range designed by George Davies, the ex-Next chief, have not. Operating profits at Allied Maples, the furniture retailer, fell from £6.7 million to £1.6 million while Asda's 25 per cent stake in MFI contributed more than doubled losses of £4.2 million.

Food, therefore, holds the key to Asda's future. By the end of November all but three of the Gateway stores will have been successfully refurbished. Attention will then turn to the original chain, where 49 elderly but well-

located stores have been identified for up-grading.

Pre-tax profits of £180 million to £185 million look achievable, putting the shares, at 89p, on a price-earnings multiple of just over 8. Back on the buy list.

Rank

RANK Organisation's 45 per cent tax charge caught the market slightly off guard, but otherwise the interim figures only confirmed that the group is coping as well with the economic conditions as might be expected.

Other than in the film and television division, where profits halved, and the equipment manufacturing operation, driven into the red by recession, Rank's swings compensated for its roundabouts.

A busier winter holiday season offset a downturn in hotels, higher bingo profits almost made up for a lower return from the casinos, and improved Hard Rock Cafe earnings wiped out a shortfall at the Rank Ahnert caravan parks. Rank Xerox's contribution was almost unchanged.

What is encouraging is that Rank hardly appears to have lost any customers. They are all simply spending less.

The figures were adjusted for the Mecca purchase, which, Rank says, is not to blame for the downturn. It is responsible for a large chunk of the £1 billion debt, which might be more worrying were most of it not fixed at below 10 per cent. Gearing is just over 50 per cent.

The tax hike reflects the sub-normal charge last time after the preferred stock redemption, and a provision for unrelieved advanced corporation tax. It left earnings barely covering the unchanged interim dividend. Second-half profits are traditionally stronger, and Smith New Court looks for £385 million before tax, to produce 49p of earnings, for a price/earnings multiple of 13.5. But at 664p, the shares look high enough for now.

SURELY THE BANK THAT RESTRUCTURED LANVIN MUST BE FRENCH?

Certainly the bank responsible for the restructuring of Lanvin is French. It is in fact Midland Bank S.A. based in Paris and listed on the Paris stock exchange. Its M & A team, now part of Samuel Montagu France & Cie is a significant force in corporate finance.

Its highly experienced team handled over thirty transactions valued at FF 9.2 billion during 1989-1990. Lanvin needed to strengthen its financial resources and Midland Bank S.A. was asked to help. Apart from bringing in new design skills, the bank secured the sale of Lanvin's head office for the highest price per square metre ever paid for property in Paris. The M & A team advised on both domestic and cross-border transactions and has advised Storehouse on its disposal of Jacadi, RJR Nabisco on the disposal of Uclit, and Drescher Bank on the purchase of a controlling interest in Banque Internationale de Placement.

Additionally, Midland not only has one of the leading property teams in France which sees most major domestic property transactions, but is also a leading operator in spot foreign exchange in Paris, and one of the largest option traders on the MATIF.

Yes, Midland Bank S.A. is also part of Midland Group's merchant banking network, brought together under Midland Montagu, with Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited being the focus in the UK. As such, Midland Bank S.A. is able to draw upon the Group's substantial resources.

It's yet another example of the power of our network. So if you're looking for business opportunities in Europe, think how it could contribute to your success.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Well-placed for sunshine offer

IF MICHAEL Ashcroft, head of ADT and the only man to lure the Princess of Wales to an evening of greyhound racing, fancies a new job he could do worse than speak to his old friend Michael de Groot. Ashcroft, who saw shares in his security to car auction group fall 130p to 480p yesterday, may be keen to reply to de Groot's advert in the *Royal Bermuda Gazette* recruiting a manager for his private island. De Groot, the ex-chairman of Ladlaw, the Canadian group that has a 28 per cent stake in ADT, recently bought Perots Island off the coast of Bermuda for \$7 million. But he will still be able to pay his new manager well: de Groot's fortune is estimated at \$430 million. Ashcroft could be the ideal man for the job. He knows Bermuda well, ADT is based there, and held its annual shareholders' meeting there last month.

NEVER mind the bombs going in, what about the booze coming out? Security guards confiscated more than 50 bottles of wine and 15 baskets of flowers from shareholders leaving the annual meeting of Youngs, the brewer, at the Grosvenor House in London yesterday. One shareholder says: "Containers of culinary and umbrellas have disappeared at previous agms."

Fast bank rate

TIMES are almost as hard for the banks as for their customers, but Girobank appears a trifle hawtish in its policing of business accounts that have strayed into the red. Maggs Bros, the Mayfair bookshop patronised by the Royal family and specialising in rare books, manuscripts and miniatures, received a curt letter from Girobank yesterday pointing out that its account was 73p overdrawn. "It would be appreciated if you could clear this overdraft immediately," writes a J Griffiths from Girobank's corporate banking branch. John Maggs,

the business's proprietor, says the account was all but closed in any case. He is now endeavouring to raise the cash.

Silken lining

AFTER the success of its glaston tie, modelled by President Bush at the Malta summit with President Gorbachev, The Rack has produced a tie for next week's London summit. The struggling retail group was approached by the foreign office to produce 11,000 ties and scarves for inclusion in the delegates' goody bags. The ties are navy with red, white and blue stripes and discreet summit logo. However, times are clearly hard at the foreign office. It ordered only 200 of the ties in silk for top delegates, the rest have to make do with polyester.

Voice over matter

THE Prince of Wales may soon be talking to inanimate objects as well as plants if Matsushita, of Japan, has its

way. The group has developed the first video tape recorder that can respond to the human voice. The video talks back by asking questions about the channel, date, time and programme required. Matsushita also plans to have us nattering to our fridges, cookers and CD players, but we may have to learn Japanese first.

Heartbreak hotel

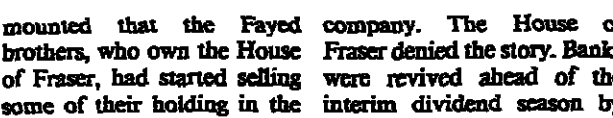
POPJOYS, one of Bath's most famous restaurants and a victim of the recession, is proving so hard to sell that Christie & Co, the estate agent, has cut the price from £325,000 to £150,000. The restaurant and the Christopher Hotel, one of Bath's oldest hotels, are for sale because of the receiver's valuation of Forth Investments, the parent company, in June. The price of the Christopher is now half its original £450,000 valuation. Difficult to believe that hotels were changing hands for silly prices only 18 months ago.

GILLIAN BOWDITCH

STOCK MARKET

current year. But ADT says the market has interpreted this as a new loss rather than the loss from 1990.

The smell of cheaper money cheered government securities which sported gains of £½ at the longer end. The Sears stores group fell 4p to 73p on a turnover of more than 2 million shares as speculation



First Dealings July 8	Last Dealings July 19	Last Declaration October 16	For Settlement October 21
Call options were taken out on: 11/7/91 ADT, Aviva Petroleum, Berford Int'l, Carney Street Invest, Control Secc, Conroy Petroleum, European Leisure, Explura, Monum Off & Gas, Alan Paul, Real Time Control, Scottish TV, TV-am, UniChem, Pots & Cotts, ADT, J England, Monument Oil & Gas.			

NarWest WoodMac, the broker, switched its recommendation from a hold to a buy. It claims that Williams' deal-making prospects are better than some of the larger industrial conglomerates and expects the group to make a "bottom-of-the-cycle-acquisition" before either BTR or Hanson can.

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch household products group, fell 15p to 747p after profit downgradings by both Country NatWest and UBS Phillips & Drew.

Country cut its forecast from £1.88 billion to £1.84 billion

J Sainsbury rose 4p to 363p, Tesco 4p to 284p, and Angli 2p to 294p.

Rank Organisation added 8p to 668p after learning that the fall in half-year pre-tax profits was no worse than expected. The final figure showed pre-tax profits down 30 per cent at £96 million. Macarthy, the pharmaceuticals group, jumped 22p to 252p after receiving a counter-bid from UniChem, down 9p at 156p. Unichem is offering 262p a share - 32p above Grampian's final offer of 230p. Grampian slipped 2p to 172p.

MICHAEL CLARK

[illegible]

Fax Numbers:
071-481 9313
071-782 7828

Wageningen Agricultural University

This document is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of the International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited ("the London Stock Exchange") pursuant to section 154 of the Financial Services Act 1986. The issue of this document has been authorised by the Council of the London Stock Exchange without approval of its members.

This document contains information and details of the offer of shares in Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc (the "Company") and should be read in conjunction with the Listing Particulars which will be published by Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc (the "Company") and should be read in conjunction with the Listing Particulars which will be published by Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc (the "Company").

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Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1985 with registered number 2140840)

Placing and Offer

by

Kleinwort Benson Securities Limited

of

8,451,547 Ordinary Shares of 5p each

at 290p per share

payable in full on application

of which 5,172,414 shares are being placed

and 3,279,133 shares are being

offered to the public

Share capital following the Placing and Offer

Authorised	Issued and now being issued, fully paid
£ 1,650,000	£ 1,107,712
Number 33,000,000	Number 22,354,234

The Ordinary Shares now being offered will rank in full for all dividends and other distributions hereafter declared, made or paid on the Ordinary Shares of the Company.

Indebtedness

At the close of business on 18 June 1991, the Company and its subsidiaries had outstanding borrowings of £10,000,000, comprising secured bank loans repayable in one to five years of £6,750,000, an unsecured bank loan of £2,000,000 and an unsecured bank loan of £1,250,000. The Company also had contingent liabilities of £2,410,250 in the form of counter indemnities (further details of which are set out in paragraph 4(c) of the Listing Particulars) given to two banks in respect of guarantees given by the banks on behalf of certain Directors and senior employees.

Save as disclosed above and apart from intra-group indebtedness, at the close of business on 18 June 1991 neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries had any loan capital outstanding or entered into or any other borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowings, including term loans, bank overdrafts, liabilities under acceptances (other than normal trade bills) or acceptance credits, any mortgages, charges, hire purchase commitments or obligations under finance leases, guarantees or other material contingent liabilities.

AVAILABILITY OF LISTING PARTICULARS

Listing Particulars are included in the Companies Pledge Service available from the London Stock Exchange. Copies of the Listing Particulars may be obtained by collection only during usual business hours up to and including 13 July 1991 from the Company's Announcements Office at 46-50 Finsbury Square, London EC2 and during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturday and public holidays excepted) up to and including 25 July 1991 from any of the Company's business addresses in the UK and from:

Kleinwort Benson Securities Limited
PO Box 560
20 Fenchurch Street
London EC3P 3DB

National Westminster Bank PLC
New James Department
PO Box 33
153-157 Commercial Road
London E1 2DB

Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc
Lowndes Lambert House
53 Fenchurch Street
London EC3P 3HL

National Westminster Bank PLC
New James Department
27 Old Broad Street
London EC2N 1HQ

and at the following branches of National Westminster Bank PLC:

Birmingham
Colmore Centre
103 Colmore Row
Birmingham B3 3NS

Edinburgh
80 George Street
Edinburgh EH2 3JZ

Leeds
8 Park Row
Leeds LS1 1QS

Newcastle-upon-Tyne
87 Grey Street
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
NE1 6ER

Swindon
84 Commercial Road
Swindon SN1 1NU

Bristol
32 Corn Street
Bristol BS99 7UG

Glasgow
14 Rhyndawood Square
Glasgow G2 4AQ

Manchester
55 King Street
Manchester M60 2DB

Norwich
45 London Street
Norwich NR2 1HX

Kleinwort Benson Securities is a member of the London Stock Exchange and the Securities and Futures Authority Limited.

12 July 1991

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

1. The Company is offering for sale by way of a placing and offer of shares in the Company ("the Offer") of Ordinary Shares of 5p each (the "Shares") and is offering for sale by way of a placing and offer of shares in the Company ("the Offer") of Ordinary Shares of 5p each (the "Shares").

2. The Shares are being offered for sale by way of a placing and offer of shares in the Company ("the Offer") of Ordinary Shares of 5p each (the "Shares").

3. The Shares are being offered for sale by way of a placing and offer of shares in the Company ("the Offer") of Ordinary Shares of 5p each (the "Shares").

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9. The Shares are being offered for sale by way of a placing and offer of shares in the Company ("the Offer") of Ordinary Shares of 5p each (the "Shares").

10. The Shares are being offered for sale by way of a placing and offer of shares in the Company ("the Offer") of Ordinary Shares of 5p each (the "Shares").

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

The following rules should be read in conjunction with the Application Form:

1. In order to apply for Shares, you must complete the Application Form and send it to the Company or to the Placing Agent, together with the sum of money required to pay for the Shares.
2. The sum of money required to pay for the Shares must be in the form of a cheque or bank draft payable to the order of the Company or to the Placing Agent.
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10. The sum of money required to pay for the Shares must be in the form of a cheque or bank draft payable to the order of the Company or to the Placing Agent.

Number of Ordinary Shares applied for	Amount you must pay
100	£290
500	£1,450
1,000	£2,900
10,000	£29,000

3. Sign and date the Application Form in Box 3.
4. The Application Form may be signed by you or by a third party on your behalf or on behalf of the Company.
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10. The Application Form may be signed by you or by a third party on your behalf or on behalf of the Company.

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KEY INFORMATION

The following information should be read in conjunction with the full text of the Listing Particulars from which it is derived.

Lowndes Lambert is a long-established international insurance broker which provides a comprehensive range of insurance broking services through its headquarters in London, its 18 regional branches in the UK and its 26 overseas offices in 11 countries. It is currently ranked in the top 20 in the world in terms of broking revenue. The Group is not involved in the operation of members' agencies or managing agents at Lloyd's.

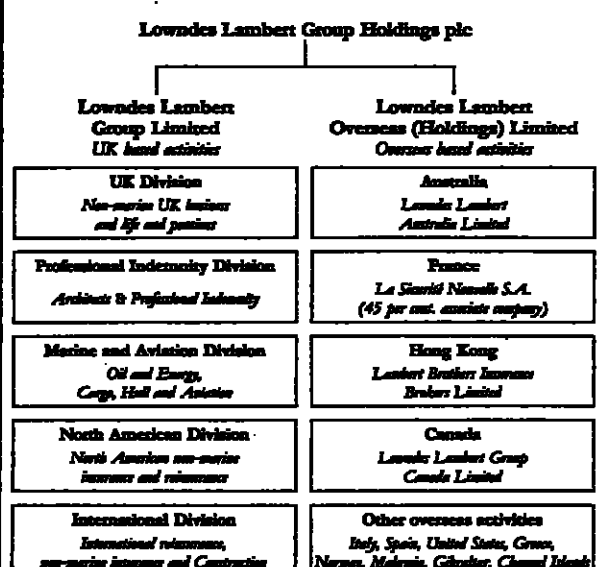
History

Lowndes Lambert can trace its origin back 150 years to the coal factoring business set up by Francis Devereux Lambert which developed into shipping and insurance broking. The business was acquired by Hill Samuel & Co. Limited in 1968. In 1979, Richard Shaw joined the Group as Chief Executive and instituted a major reorganisation of the Group.

In June 1988, 55 members of the management, together with institutional investors led by Cansover Investments and supported by Alan Parkeof Associates and BCI Ventures, effected a management buy-out of Lowndes Lambert. Since the MBO, the most significant of the Group's acquisitions have been Chandler Hargreaves Limited and the Australian broking business of Bain Clarkson.

Divisional activities

The Group's revenue is generated from its activities as an international insurance and reinsurance broker servicing the needs of a wide and varied range of clients. The five United Kingdom divisions trade as agents for Lowndes Lambert Group Limited, the main operating subsidiary. All Group companies operate in close co-operation with each other to give clients access to a comprehensive range of services. The structure of the Group is as follows:



Key business strengths

The Directors consider the key business strengths of the Group to be:

- the breadth and quality of its international client base. The Group acts as insurance broker to a number of major international companies, although no single client accounts for more than two per cent of the Group's revenue;
- the broad spread of its insurance broking services. The Group's wide range of business has enabled it to avoid a dependence on specialist and sometimes volatile sectors of the insurance market;
- the skill and experience of its management. In an industry where there is a relatively high turnover of staff, a considerable proportion of senior employees have been with Lowndes Lambert for many years;
- the motivation of Directors and staff arising from a significant and continuing interest in the equity of the Company. The continuing involvement of senior management and staff in the equity of the Company following flotation underlines their commitment to the Group;
- the proven ability to generate growth by new business development and successful acquisitions.

Prospects

Over the last few years the insurance market has seen generally decreasing premium rates. The Directors believe increased reinsurance rates and the recent heavy losses suffered by insurers are beginning to be reflected in insurance premium rates. The Directors consider that premium rates have in general stabilised and, in some classes of business handled by the Group, are now increasing. If the increase in premium rates becomes more widespread, as is anticipated by the Directors, both income and operating profits will benefit.

The Directors believe that there are considerable opportunities for increasing business by supplying a wider range of insurance products to existing clients and by winning new business. Due to the broad spread of its business, the Group competes against most other brokers, from the larger international groups to high street brokers. The Directors believe that, despite the high level of competition, the Group is well placed to gain market share.

Trading in the current year has been encouraging. The Directors believe that with its established client base, spread of business and its ability to win new clients, the Group is well positioned to continue its profitable growth.

Trading record

The information in the following table has been extracted from the Accounts Report set out in Part XI of the Listing Particulars.

	1991	1990	1989
Turnover	£'000	£'000	£'000
— Group companies	43,328	37,434	28,307
— Group share of associated companies	10,057	8,699	6,182
Interest and other income	53,385	46,133	34,489
Total income	60,011	53,193	38,980
Group profit before taxation	7,356	5,075	3,194
Earnings per share—basic	21.3p	14.0p	8.7p
—fully diluted	20.1p	13.2p	8.2p

The Group has reported increased brokerage income each year since the completion of its reorganisation in 1981. During this period the Group has experienced trading in all phases of the insurance market cycle. Notwithstanding a particularly soft market in the last few years, the Group has significantly increased its earnings during this period. The increase in total income from £39 million in the year ended 31 March 1989 to £60 million in the year ended 31 March 1991 reflects both strong organic growth and the acquisition of Chandler Hargreaves and the Australian broking business of Bain Clarkson in the year ended 31 March 1990.

Interest and other income principally arises from income earned on monies held on behalf of the insurer and the insured and is an integral part of the broker's remuneration.

Offer statistics

Offer price	290p
Number of Ordinary Shares being offered	8,451,547
Ordinary Shares in issue following the Offer	23,354,234
Market capitalisation at the Offer price	£67.7 million
Pro forma 1991 earnings per share (1)—basic	21.4p
—fully diluted	20.5p
Price earnings multiple at the Offer price on the basis of pro forma 1991 earnings per share (1)—basic	13.6 times
—fully diluted	14.1 times
Notional net dividend per share (2)	11.5p
Notional gross dividend yield at the Offer price (2)	5.3 per cent
Notional dividend cover on the basis of the pro forma 1991 basic earnings per share (2)	1.86 times

Notes:

- (1) The basis of calculation of the pro forma 1991 basic and fully diluted earnings per share are set out in Part XII of the Listing Particulars.
- (2) The notional net dividend is based on what the Directors would have expected to recommend in respect of the year ended 31 March 1991 had the net proceeds of the Offer been available for the whole of that year.

Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc

Application Form

Offer by Kleinwort Benson Securities Limited of 3,279,133 fully paid Ordinary Shares of 5p each in Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc at 290p per Ordinary Share, payable in full on application

Before making any application to acquire shares you are recommended to consult an independent financial adviser authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986. You may only apply for shares in the proportions stated in Note 1 of the accompanying guide.

1. I/we offer to purchase:

☐ For Official Use Only

1. Form No.
2. Acceptance number
3. Shares allocated
4. Amount received
5. Amount payable
6. Amount returned
7. Cheque number
2. Ordinary Shares of 5p each in Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc (or any smaller number of shares for which this application is accepted) at 290p per share on the terms and subject to the conditions set out herein and in the Prospectus dated 10 July 1991 and subject to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc.
3. For which the amount payable is:

☐ £

Signature

Dated 1991
4. Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

Mr, Mrs, Miss or title

Forename(s) (in full)

Surname

Address (in full)

Postcode
5. ☐ I/We have your cheque/banker's draft, made payable to "National Westminster Bank PLC" and crossed "Not Negotiable—Lowndes Lambert Group Holdings plc" for the amount in Box 2.

Mr, Mrs, Miss or title

Forename(s)

Mr, Mrs, Miss or title

Forename(s)

Mr, Mrs, Miss or title

Forename(s)

Surname

Surname

Surname

Address

Address

Address

Postcode

Postcode

Postcode

Fill in Boxes 6 and 7 only when the application is being made jointly or on behalf of more than one person. The first or sole applicant should sign in Box 3 and complete Box 4. Insert in Box 6 the names and addresses of the second and subsequent applicants (up to a maximum of three additional applicants), each of whose signatures is required in Box 7.

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

You must send the completed Application Form by post, or deliver it by hand, to National Westminster Bank PLC, New Issues Department, PO Box 33, 153-157 Commercial Road, London E1 2DB.

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High	Low	Company	Price	Div	Yield %	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Div	Yield %	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Div	Yield %	P/E
15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
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38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
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40	4																			

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Levin: 50

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your daily dividend figure. If it matches the prize money stated, you win. Follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Galena	Beverages	
2	Flax Art Dev	Drugs/Stores	
3	Marine Spencer	Drugs/Stores	
4	Wilton (Conolly)	Building/Roads	
5	Sunrise (Jen)	Paper/Print/Ad	
6	Grain King	Beverages	
7	Wendland Foods	Food	
8	Barlow Road	Industrials A-D	
9	Linn	Industrials L-R	
10	ERA Co	Drugs/Stores	
11	Barton	Drugs/Stores	
12	Norcross	Industrials L-R	
13	Argyll	Food	
14	Taylor Woodrow	Building/Roads	
15	BWI	Industrials A-D	
16	Amson	Newspapers/Pub	
17	Parsonsland Sand	Building/Roads	
18	Ladbrooke	Drugs/Stores	
19	Grand Ltd	Drugs/Stores	
20	Tarmac	Building/Roads	
21	Grain King	Beverages	
22	Leila	Electricals	
23	Reed Executive	Industrials L-R	
24	Bilton (P)	Property	
25	Kingsley	Drugs/Stores	
26	Vickins	Industrials S-Z	
27	Lea Service	Motor/Aircraft	
28	Amson	Chemicals/Plas	
29	Lea (Archer)	Industrials L-R	
30	Body Shop	Drugs/Stores	
31	EPD Ind	Building/Roads	
32	Terrill	Building/Roads	
33	British Gas	Oil/Gas	
34	Rank Org	Industrials L-R	
35	Brinson	Property	
36	Usher Walker	Paper/Print/Ad	
37	Wimpey G	Building/Roads	
38	Bristol	Newspapers/Pub	
39	Lucas	Motor/Aircraft	
40	Chatterfield	Property	
41	Gleaves	Industrials E-K	
42	Lloyds	Bank/Discount	
43	Thatcher H	Industrials S-Z	
44	Wholesale Fittings	Electricals	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

BRITISH FUNDS						
Share	High	Low	Open	Close	YTD	%
FTSE 100	2,850	2,840	2,845	2,850	2,850	0.1

SHORTS (Under Five Years)						
Share	High	Low	Open	Close	YTD	%
FTSE 100	2,850	2,840	2,845	2,850	2,850	0.1

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS						
Share	High	Low	Open	Close	YTD	%
FTSE 100	2,850	2,840	2,845	2,850	2,850	0.1

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS						
Share	High	Low	Open	Close	YTD	%
FTSE 100	2,850	2,840	2,845	2,850	2,850	0.1

UNDATED						
Share	High	Low	Open	Close	YTD	%
FTSE 100	2,850	2,840	2,845	2,850	2,850	0.1

INDEX-LINKED						
Share	High	Low	Open	Close	YTD	%
FTSE 100	2,850	2,840	2,845	2,850	2,850	0.1

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP						
Share	High	Low	Open	Close	YTD	%
FTSE 100	2,850	2,840	2,845	2,850	2,850	0.1

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Late profit-taking

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 1. Dealings end today. Contango day July 15. Settlement day July 22.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

No.	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
1	Galena	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5
2	Flax Art Dev	0.85	0.02	2.4	10.2
3	Marine Spencer	0.78	0.01	1.3	11.8
4	Wilton (Conolly)	1.05	0.03	2.9	13.1
5	Sunrise (Jen)	0.92	0.01	1.1	12.4
6	Grain King	1.18	0.02	1.7	11.5
7	Wendland Foods	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8
8	Barlow Road	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1
9	Linn	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3
10	ERA Co	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6
11	Barton	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5
12	Norcross	1.08	0.02	1.9	11.7
13	Argyll	0.75	0.01	1.3	10.1
14	Taylor Woodrow	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3
15	BWI	0.90	0.02	2.2	11.4
16	Amson	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5
17	Parsonsland Sand	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4
18	Ladbrooke	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6
19	Grand Ltd	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2
20	Tarmac	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7
21	Grain King	1.18	0.02	1.7	11.5
22	Leila	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8
23	Reed Executive	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1
24	Bilton (P)	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3
25	Kingsley	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6
26	Vickins	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5
27	Lea Service	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3
28	Amson	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5
29	Lea (Archer)	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4
30	Body Shop	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6
31	EPD Ind	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2
32	Terrill	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7
33	British Gas	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8
34	Rank Org	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1
35	Brinson	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3
36	Usher Walker	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6
37	Wimpey G	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5
38	Bristol	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3
39	Lucas	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5
40	Chatterfield	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4
41	Gleaves	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6
42	Lloyds	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2
43	Thatcher H	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7
44	Wholesale Fittings	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8

BREWERIES						
No.	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E	
1	Galena	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5	
2	Flax Art Dev	0.85	0.02	2.4	10.2	
3	Marine Spencer	0.78	0.01	1.3	11.8	
4	Wilton (Conolly)	1.05	0.03	2.9	13.1	
5	Sunrise (Jen)	0.92	0.01	1.1	12.4	
6	Grain King	1.18	0.02	1.7	11.5	
7	Wendland Foods	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	
8	Barlow Road	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1	
9	Linn	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3	
10	ERA Co	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6	
11	Barton	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5	
12	Norcross	1.08	0.02	1.9	11.7	
13	Argyll	0.75	0.01	1.3	10.1	
14	Taylor Woodrow	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3	
15	BWI	0.90	0.02	2.2	11.4	
16	Amson	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5	
17	Parsonsland Sand	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4	
18	Ladbrooke	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6	
19	Grand Ltd	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2	
20	Tarmac	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7	
21	Grain King	1.18	0.02	1.7	11.5	
22	Leila	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	
23	Reed Executive	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1	
24	Bilton (P)	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3	
25	Kingsley	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6	
26	Vickins	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5	
27	Lea Service	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3	
28	Amson	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5	
29	Lea (Archer)	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4	
30	Body Shop	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6	
31	EPD Ind	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2	
32	Terrill	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7	
33	British Gas	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	
34	Rank Org	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1	
35	Brinson	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3	
36	Usher Walker	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6	
37	Wimpey G	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5	
38	Bristol	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3	
39	Lucas	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5	
40	Chatterfield	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4	
41	Gleaves	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6	
42	Lloyds	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2	
43	Thatcher H	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7	
44	Wholesale Fittings	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	

BUILDING, ROADS						
No.	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E	
77	Wilton (Conolly)	1.05	0.03	2.9	13.1	
78	Wendland Foods	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	
79	Barlow Road	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1	
80	Linn	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3	
81	ERA Co	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6	
82	Barton	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5	
83	Norcross	1.08	0.02	1.9	11.7	
84	Argyll	0.75	0.01	1.3	10.1	
85	Taylor Woodrow	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3	
86	BWI	0.90	0.02	2.2	11.4	
87	Amson	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5	
88	Parsonsland Sand	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4	
89	Ladbrooke	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6	
90	Grand Ltd	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2	
91	Tarmac	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7	
92	Grain King	1.18	0.02	1.7	11.5	
93	Leila	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	
94	Reed Executive	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1	
95	Bilton (P)	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3	
96	Kingsley	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6	
97	Vickins	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5	
98	Lea Service	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3	
99	Amson	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5	
100	Lea (Archer)	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4	
101	Body Shop	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6	
102	EPD Ind	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2	
103	Terrill	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7	
104	British Gas	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	
105	Rank Org	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1	
106	Brinson	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3	
107	Usher Walker	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6	
108	Wimpey G	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5	
109	Bristol	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3	
110	Lucas	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5	
111	Chatterfield	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4	
112	Gleaves	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6	
113	Lloyds	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2	
114	Thatcher H	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7	
115	Wholesale Fittings	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	

ELECTRICITY						
No.	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E	
1	Galena	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5	
2	Flax Art Dev	0.85	0.02	2.4	10.2	
3	Marine Spencer	0.78	0.01	1.3	11.8	
4	Wilton (Conolly)	1.05	0.03	2.9	13.1	
5	Sunrise (Jen)	0.92	0.01	1.1	12.4	
6	Grain King	1.18	0.02	1.7	11.5	
7	Wendland Foods	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	
8	Barlow Road	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1	
9	Linn	0.95	0.02	2.1	11.3	
10	ERA Co	1.15	0.01	0.9	12.6	
11	Barton	0.82	0.01	1.2	10.5	
12	Norcross	1.08	0.02	1.9	11.7	
13	Argyll	0.75	0.01	1.3	10.1	
14	Taylor Woodrow	1.10	0.01	0.9	12.3	
15	BWI	0.90	0.02	2.2	11.4	
16	Amson	1.12	0.01	0.9	12.5	
17	Parsonsland Sand	0.85	0.01	1.2	10.4	
18	Ladbrooke	1.05	0.02	1.9	11.6	
19	Grand Ltd	0.78	0.01	1.3	10.2	
20	Tarmac	1.18	0.01	0.8	12.7	
21	Grain King	1.18	0.02	1.7	11.5	
22	Leila	0.88	0.01	1.1	10.8	
23	Reed Executive	1.02	0.01	1.0	12.1	
24						

Barry Pickthall meets the youngsters who are growing to love the challenge of the Cutty Sark tall ships race

Setting sail for a taste of real adventure

CATHERINE Wetton, aged 17, from Stafford, was bubbling with enthusiasm yesterday aboard the Sail Training Association's (STA) 159R schooner, Malcolm Miller, as she sailed towards Millford Haven. "It's difficult to stand up right now because we are heeled over so far, but it is fantastic," she said over the radio telephone.

Wetton is one of 39 female trainees to have signed on last Saturday aboard the STA's square rigger for the first stage of the Cutty Sark tall ships race, which starts from the Welsh port on Sunday. Before departing from Liverpool, for their inaugural voyage south, Capt Mike Farwood had his new recruits climb Malcolm Miller's tallest mast, standing a daunting 120ft above the water. "I was the first of my watch to go up. It was quite scary, but once out on the yards it was fantastic," Wetton said.

Overcoming fear is part of the confidence-boosting experience that has attracted more than 1,000 youngsters to take part in this annual jamboree of sail, which this year has attracted more than 90 vessels. They range from the giant 368ft four-masted Soviet barque, Sedov, which joins the fleet at Cork, to the 36ft traditional Hillyard cruising

sloop owned by David Mansel Lewis, the Lord Lieutenant of Dyfed. At least half the crew aboard each vessel is aged between 16 and 25, and most will have begged, borrowed and saved a considerable sum to enjoy — or endure — the experience.

"The worst part is being seasick. It was quite bad last night," Wetton said yesterday. "But it has all been well worth putting up with."

To compete in the race, Wetton and her crewmates each had to raise £770, which for many proved an initiative test in itself. "I raised a third of it working at the local Sainsbury's and baby-sitting, my grandparents gave me some money, and a neighbour involved with the Royal Variety Club gave me some useful names and addresses," Wetton said. Katherine Griggs, from West Withington, near Manchester, worked equally

hard to raise the money for her berth aboard the Malcolm Miller. She saved £95 from doing odd jobs and writing letters raised a further £75 from the Rayne Foundation, £100 from the Southern Electricity Board, and £250 from the Van der Star Trust, administered by the Royal Yachting Association.

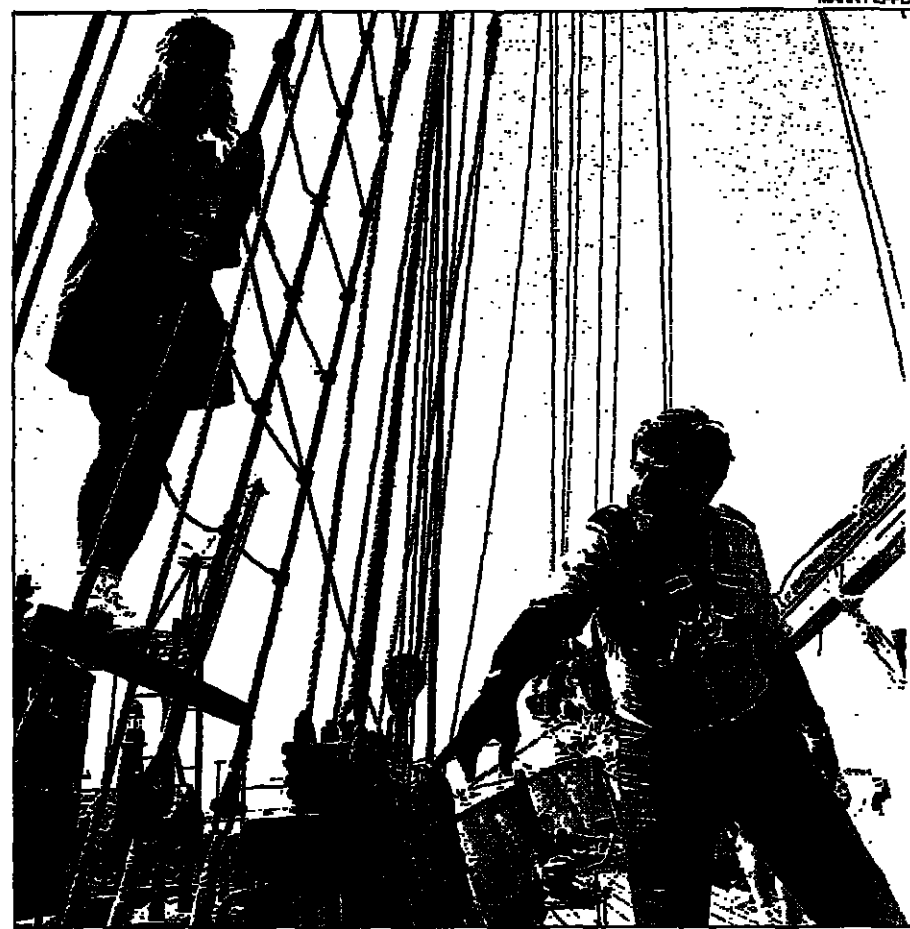
"Sail training attracts youngsters from all walks of life. We have boys from Eton rubbing shoulders with boys on probation," John Hamilton, the race director, said. "A two-week voyage can transform a youngster's outlook on life. They have to do everything from climbing up the rigging and stowing sails on the yards to taking their turn as galley rat. The boy from Eton has to get out of his bunk at three in the morning and face a wet, cold and miserable watch on deck, just the same as the probationer. Both make

it and earn each other's respect because of that."

Hamilton recalled a comment overheard from one 16-year-old, who had been at the wheel of one of the ships as it docked: "That's the first time I have felt important in my life." The experience — everyone, including the crew of handicapped recruits aboard the Jubilee Trust's 163ft purpose-built barque, Lord Nelson, gets a chance to take the helm — has a profound effect, boosting self-esteem and confidence, Hamilton said.

This year's Cutty Sark race takes the vessels first to Cork, then on to Belfast, before the fleet splits in two for a cruise-in-company around to the North Sea port of Aberdeen. The bigger ships, like the 310ft Polish registered Der Młodziec, the German barque, Alexander von Humboldt, and the British square riggers, Sir Winston Churchill, Malcolm Miller, Astrid and Royalist, will sail the 500 miles around Scotland, but the smaller yachts are able to cut through the Caledonian Canal.

The race ends with a 355-mile crossing of the North Sea to Delzijl, in the Netherlands, on August 17. The winner will not be the first across the line, but the crew which has done most to better international understanding.



Learning the ropes: a youngster is put through her paces on the Malcolm Miller

Reaching his peak

ROBIN Knox-Johnston, the round-the-world yachtsman, will be taught the ropes of a different trade when he sets out next week with the climber, Chris Bonington, to scale one of Greenland's virgin peaks, known as the Cathedral Bonington, too, has something to learn from the adventure.

Knox-Johnston and Bonington leave next Saturday from the Cumbrian port of Whitehaven bound for the ice-pack aboard the yachtsman's veteran 44ft ketch, Suhaili. "Chris has had me training with the Royal Marines," a nervous Knox-Johnston said yesterday. "When they taught me to abseil, I had very sweaty palms. I can't wait to get my own back when Chris has to climb Suhaili's mast for the first time."

Dream voyage

ANOTHER great adventure will start this Sunday when a crew led by a Japanese Shinto priest departs from Barcelona aboard an exact replica of the Santa Maria to recreate Columbus's historic voyage across the Atlantic — and complete the voyage he dreamed of but never finished.

The nine-month, 17,000-mile voyage will take the engineless Santa Maria first to the Caribbean, then through the Panama Canal and across the Pacific to Japan, to complete the discoverer's 500-year dream of finding a sea route to the Orient.

It is also the first in a series of worldwide events, which will include a transatlantic race next year for tall ships, to commemorate the Spanish discovery of the Americas.

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Slowdown fails to check fast food's appetite for growth

By Derek Harris

A SHOP selling flowers in one of the latest regional shopping centres to open in the north of England saw turnover rise by a fifth after a national hamburger chain launched an outlet there.

That success underlines how powerful food chains have become, especially the nationally-promoted fast food outlets.

David Acheson has been involved in fast food and franchising for 20 years, and among other things, turned Kentucky Fried Chicken to profit and boosted the takings of BSM's Spud-U-Like. He is now managing director of Stoy Hayward franchising services and says that while fast food has been affected by the economic slowdown, the sector enjoys a strong resistance to recession.

He added that burgers, pizza slices and the many other varieties of fast food are now a social habit.

Profit margins have been good, trading is for cash, stock is kept low and trade is largely non-seasonal, so sales or stock mark-downs are not needed. Entrepreneurs looking for a share of this success need to weigh their chances carefully, however. Astute promotion has been the key to success at McDonald's.

Newcomers cannot easily fight in that league. But Mr Acheson believes fast food is continuing to grow. Gourmet burgers have ap-

peared in the market, while new pizza and pasta outlets have enjoyed the biggest recent growth. Baked foods, such as croissants, have become popular, while continental sausage outlets have opened at two London airports. Chain stores such as Marks and Spencer and Boots have also underlined just how lucrative the sandwich market can be.

Mr Acheson said: "This is not necessarily a tip, but what you can get in Australia, but not yet in Britain, are fast food versions of traditional meals with a base like roast beef or roast chicken."

MR FRIDAY



"You know what I miss? - people carrying me for being my own boss"

Footling the bill at Cinemart

By Rooney Hobson

AN UNEXPECTED offer from the film world opened up a panorama of opportunity for Monty Landsberg that led him to found a poster reproduction company. He has also demonstrated a piggy-back way to success by using the commercial assets of a friendly company.

He says: "I have always been interested in films and I have a friend who is a film extra. One day he produced a book containing a number of prints. I could see a great commercial potential."

Mr Landsberg worked for Daland, a small company in Dalston, North London, supplying goods to pubs, restaurants and hotels. His idea was to reproduce the posters and sell them through Daland's nationwide network of customers established over the past ten years.

A heart attack set the plans back, but Mr Landsberg recovered and founded Cinemart, raising his own finance but operating out of Daland's premises. Daland is giving valuable support and has seconded Barbara Smith, a secretary, to help with administration and meeting orders.

Mr Landsberg says: "We're in an age of nostalgia. I have about 200 posters going back to the silent days to 1920 and earlier."

The idea is that the catering trade can display the posters to decorate the walls and sell them to the public. The posters are reproduced actual size by laser printing technology and mounted in frames. They will sell for

£15.99. Cinemart also produces place mats.

Mr Landsberg says: "These classics embrace musicals, melodramas, crime, comedy, romance and horror, starring the most glamorous and celebrated names. Our product is unique. The only other place you can find these posters is in the British Film Institute library and they are not for sale there."

Among the stars of yesteryear are Greta Garbo, Buster Keaton and Gloria Swanson, Judy Garland, Marilyn Monroe and Alan Ladd. One poster has no titles, although Charlie Chaplin is seen grinning wistfully at a young lady whose attentions have been captured by another man. Mr Landsberg says: "It dates from 1913. The film was never finished. The poster was retrieved from a dustbin."

With a staff of 14, Daland acts as a sales organisation supplying "disposables" - items such as paper napkins, coasters and book matches - to thousands of outlets. The items are printed with a design and logo of the individual restaurant or pub. The company is breaking into overseas markets.

Mr Landsberg is encouraged by a recent auction of original film posters in which H G Wells's *War of the Worlds* fetched £372 and a copy of the Beatles' film *Help* was sold for £200. He says originals can fetch up to £500 but there are not many. "If the public wants a classic poster then this is the ideal way to go about it."



Poster parade: Barbara Smith, secretary, with reproductions

Doncaster 'ignored 1992 help'

GOVERNMENT initiatives to advise small and medium enterprises about 1992, with services and other means of support, have been largely ignored by smaller businesses in Doncaster.

Doncaster Business Link (DBL) found the key requirement for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) was for individual help and guidance to understand how the single market would affect their business, what plans they should be making and how to implement them.

In a report, DBL says: "Doncaster SMEs had ignored opportunities promoted through the DTI national campaign. Few recognised the need to adopt defensive as well as pro-active strategies. The initiative to act would not be taken if left solely to the SMEs. The need was for a direct link between SMEs and the resources and help available."

DBL's intervention proved a useful catalyst, says the report, so plans are being made to continue the project commercially.

Doncaster Business Link is at 2 Trafford Court, Trafford Way, Doncaster DN1 1PN. Tel: 0302 377226.

Small businesses have a chance to argue for or against legislation to curb the late payment of bills and to suggest alternative measures such as a code of practice. Mr Tom O'Connor, chairman of the CBI smaller firms council, is inviting comments.

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Silver Singing can fulfil promise of Chepstow return

Shoulder problem clears just in time for Polish Patriot

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE victories of Indian Queen at Royal Ascot and Dazzlingly Radiant at Salisbury last month were good examples of what a filly can achieve while in foal.

At York today, I will not be surprised to see Silver Singing, from Ian Balding's Kingsclere yard, take a leaf out of their books and win the A F Burge Handicap in the hands of John Reid.

When she made her belated seasonal debut at Chepstow ten days ago, Silver Singing ran a race brimful with promise, finishing a two-length promise behind Noddy, who had earlier been fourth in the Wokingham Stakes.

Silver Singing was wisely not subjected to a punishing race that day. My post-race impression was that it would do her an immeasurable amount of good and enable her to give of her very best next time out.

Last year that very best resulted in her running up a mid-season sequence, beginning at Bath and then taking in similar but more valuable sprints at Sandown, Goodwood and here at York.

An indication of how favourably treated Silver Singing is in today's race can be gleaned from looking at the Falmouth Handicap which she won over today's course and distance last August.

She had the form Bold Lez one-and-a-half lengths behind in second place on that occasion yet Bold Lez was due

MICHAEL SEELY

to renew rivalry on 3lb worse terms here until defeating at the eleventh hour yesterday.

So, with Mick Naughton's in-form pair Gemini Fire and Absolution both carrying 7lb penalties, I will be looking to Lucceado and Victory to form the hard core of Silver Singing's opposition.

Lucceado returned to form with a fine win in the Gosforth Park Cup at Newcastle a fortnight ago while Victory gave a hint that he is ready to recapture his sparkle of two seasons ago when runner-up to Mordred's Pet at Epsom.

Steve Caution has a very good chance of winning the famous Group Handicap for Sheikh Mohammed on Morn Of Song but his attempt to

land a double for his principal employer by also winning the Singapore Airlines Manchester Handicap on the recent Doncaster winner Masheelah, may be foiled by Westholme.

The Peter Easterby-trained colt ran very well over today's course and distance last time to finish third behind Libk, subsequent winner of the Old Newton Cup at Haydock.

Tony Budge, whose company sponsors the main race this afternoon, should see his own colours carried successfully in the EBF Philip Cornes Nickel Alloys Stakes by River Falls, who was a close second to Alhijaz at Newmarket.

However, Fair Crack, his representative in the Black Duck Stakes, may have to give back to Gold Desert, who is going from strength to strength judged on his win at Doncaster last time.

After riding Gold Desert, Michael Hills travels to Chester where he can win the Cardinal Puff Graduation Stakes on Governor's Imp, who should relish tonight's longer trip judged on his staying on second to Fair Cop in the Chesham Stakes.

Elsewhere, Shalegal looks a good bet to step up on his two seconds at Newmarket by winning the IMI Cornelius Maiden Stakes at Warwick, where Pettisette and Richard Fox can notch their third successive victory over course and distance in the Tricity Bendix Handicap.

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SHOWING explosive powers of acceleration, Polish Patriot stormed into a clear lead a furlong and a half out home in yesterday's Carroll Foundation July Cup and battled on gamely to beat the slow-starting Lyncus by two lengths with Elbro, the 2.2 favourite, a further half-length behind.

Surprisingly, the 6-1 winner was giving Guy Harwood's powerful Fulbourn stable its first group one success of 1991, and the trainer only because hopeful on Wednesday that Polish Patriot would add the highlight of the July meeting to the laurels he had already won in the Cork and Orrery Stakes at Royal Ascot.

"He pulled a muscle in his shoulder after Ascot," said Ray Cochrane. "Guy's had a lot of difficulty getting him right and the trouble only finally cleared up yesterday."

Cochrane has been riding like a man inspired recently and once again made the right move when sending Polish Patriot into the lead just before the inside two-furlong barrier.

"Everything went very well. I thought he'd quicken, but not show a burst like that. It surprised me. He's not as good as Chief Singer, on whom I also won the July Cup, but he's not far behind."

Always rather nervous before his races, Polish Patriot was once again edgy in the paddock and a trifle hesitant before going to the start from his stall. He was fitted with a net muzzle to make it easier to restrain him on the way to the start before the device was removed. "He settled better than usual going to the post," said Cochrane.

Harwood was not at Newmarket, having departed for the Kenilwood July sales in Ken-

tucky earlier in the day, but Cochrane said: "Polish Patriot is in races like the Prix Maurice de Gheest over six-and-a-half furlongs at Deauville and the Ladbrokes Sprint Cup. He's also in the Nuneham at York, but I wouldn't think we'd want to bring him back to five furlongs."

Polish Patriot is owned by a syndicate of four, consisting of Dick Kirstein, Sir Ernest Harrison, Peter Savill and Paul Loebe.

The Deauville race is also now a likely target for Lyncus, who lost three or four lengths leaving the stalls. However, Steve Caution commented: "He dropped out of the stalls, but the play had been to drop him out, so it didn't affect the result. He had every chance but was beaten by a better horse."

Similarly Peter Makin had no success to offer for Elbro. "The early pace was too slow and he didn't settle," Makin said.

Robert Sangster's run of success at the July meeting continued when Willie Carson drove him previous to a half-length defeat of Yvonne Green in the opening Krug Superlatives Stakes. The 5-4 favourite, who was giving Peter Chapelle-Hyam his second winner of the meeting, will now be aimed at the Lascoux Champagne Stakes at Goodwood.

Richard Hammon has also been in sparkling form recently and Nicky Carlisle forced Rise Up Singing past the post half a length ahead of Westholme in the Qualifier Racing Welfare Handicap to give the Whitehorse trainer his third victory of the meeting.

Steve Caution rode a fine tactical race on Jendali in the Bahrain Trophy, leading from the start and keeping enough in reserve to quicken away from Kruis and win by three-and-a-half lengths.

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CHESTER

MANDARIN
6.30 Marcori. 6.55 Carriena. 7.20 Zandril. 7.50 Governor's Imp. 8.20 Star Lord. 8.50 Border Mate.

THUNDERER
6.30 Ford King. 6.55 Madam Petroski. 7.20 AM-BEER. 7.50 NALLA. (nap). 7.50 Governor's Imp. 8.20 Beau Quest. 8.50 Professional.

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
7.50 Governor's Imp.

GOING: GOOD

DRAW: 5F 16F 7F 12F 22F. LOW NUMBERS BEST

6.30 WATERGATE APPRENTICE HANDICAP

(22.80; 1m 60y) (11 runners)

1 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 2 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 3 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 4 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 5 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 6 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 7 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 8 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 9 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 10 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10. 11 0100 HAZARD 10 (D.F.) C. Taylor 5-10.

6.55 ALICE HAWTHORN MAIDEN STAKES

(2-Y-O fillies; 22.82; 5f 16y) (8)

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6.55 ALICE HAWTHORN MAIDEN STAKES

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Weiskopf finds the touch to shoot a round to remember

Backlash fails to happen



Queens and said McDermott, aged 26, would not violate the directive from Bobby Simpson, the Australian coach, who has said bowlers would "burn themselves out" in English county cricket.

Last season, McDermott rejected approaches from several counties, including Northamptonshire, for that reason and it would take a substantial

LEADING FIRST-ROUND SCORES (GB and Ireland unless stated): 69: R Charles (NZ), T Horton, P Butler, 70: B Vanney (SA), G Player (SA), 71: B Rose (Can), B Hunt, 72: A Palmer (US), A Proctor (US), C Green, 73: N Coles, C Mohot (US), B Boldt (US), B Weiler, H Fraser (US), 74: D Norman, R Botts (US), W Jones (US), H Boyle, H Muscroft, 75: R Sota (Sp), S Ducas (US), D Harwick, D Butler, C Edwards, J McAlester, V Mrazom (US), A Grubb, 76: J Little, F Boobyer, F Harris, B Large, R Whitehead, D Simon (US), B Sanford, 77: R Watson (US), J O'Keefe (US), L Flatts, D Snell, S Murray, R Fidler.

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6; Western Samoa 75, Cayman Islands 23; England 77, Malaysia 18; Wales 69, Singapore 42, Australia 107, Sri Lanka 10; Scotland 48, Fiji 31.

the

The matches in the west were affected by rain and remain to

TENNIS

match as winners for the last three years, history was against them. Never in the 99 previous meetings of the two universities has Oxford won outright more than three times in a row.

The captain, a man who rejoices in the name of Price Branch Kerfoot III, tried to redress the balance, taking on

the Cambridge No. 1, Mark Thompson, who has a service that would kill a yak at 50 paces. Against that sort of power, the third Mr Kerfoot could do little but lose 6-2, 6-1.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: B C Broad, D W Randall, R T Robinson, P Johnson, M A Crawley, J A Afford, K P Evans, F D Stephenson, 19 N French, E E Hamblings and R A Pick.
Impress: J W Holder and N T Plews.

Total (1 wk, 5.2 overs) 19
P A Cotley, M P Maynard, I Smith, R D B
Croft, J C Metson, S L Watkin, S R Barwick
and M Frost to bat.
FALL OF WICKET: 1-3.
Umpires: G I Burgess and B J Meyer.

Extras	14
Total (1 wkt, 27 overs)	82

M R Ramprasad, K R Brown, J E Embury,
N F Williams, P Farbrace, D Headley, P C R
Tufnell and N G Cowans to bat.
FALL OF WICKET: 1-48.

HAMPSTON-SP. Cardiff: Glamorgan v
 Nottinghamshire. Chelmsford: Essex v
 Warwickshire. Derby: Derbyshire v Middle-
 sex. Maidstone: Kent v Sussex. Oldham:
 Lancashire v Gloucestershire. Old
 Trafford: Lancashire v Hampshire. York:
 Yorkshire v Somerset.

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ICC stands firm over ban on tour rebels

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

SOUTH AFRICA will not take part in the cricket World Cup next year, and neither will any of the players presently suspended for defying sanctions to go there. These were the two main decisions taken by the International Cricket Council (ICC) yesterday and, though they may surprise many people, they are based on convictions and common sense rather than emotion and expediency.

Coming only 24 hours after the readmission of South Africa as a full member, the ICC's stance could be thought anomalous. It would, indeed, have been easy to allow the momentum of the week to take over, to strike out the suspensions and let South Africa's cricketers back into lucrative, high-profile action. This, however, would have been to follow one good decision with two bad ones.

The five-year international suspensions imposed on Mike Gatting and 15 others for their

unsanctioned tour in 1990 will be reviewed again in 12 months' time. Until then, they remain fully prohibitive, a verdict which will dismay any whose principles extend no further than the resources of the England team, but will surely be approved by those who believe there must be some reward for loyalty.

Lining up with the former group, to their discredit, were the United Kingdom delegates to the ICC. Alan Smith, chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board, had already volunteered a personal view that the bans should be lifted and yesterday his colleague, Doug Insole, confirmed that representations to this effect did come from the English corner.

"We felt that the sooner England could pick from a full-strength side the better it would be for us and for cricket as a whole," Insole said, apparently dismissing the strongly-worded official condemnation of the suspended players, when first they signed

up, as an irrelevance. "We raised the subject at the ICC but there was no real support at all for an immediate lifting of the ban," Insole said. "We will raise it again and would like to see some remission this time."

Few voices will be raised in

dissent if the remission is forthcoming this time next year. The new acceptance of South Africa can justifiably be reflected in a reduced sentence, but to grant immediate amnesty, with the extreme possibility of Neil Foster and Gatting being chosen to com-

plete the present series against West Indies, would have been a misjudgment of mood and a dereliction of duty. This time, the ICC, so often criticised for its weakness in doing nothing, is to be congratulated for its strength in doing nothing.

The same, in my view,

applies to the council's insistence that South Africa should not play in the fifth World Cup, to be staged in Australasia next February and March. Privately, I believe that Ali Bacher, managing director of the new United Cricket Board of South Africa, might even be

relieved. Bacher's vision of the appropriate way to re-launch his country's international cricket does not coincide with being wheeled into a marketing man's dream tournament like a bizarre circus act.

He is now free to begin the initiatives for a more dignified and significant overture to the second act of South Africa's international life. Indeed, India, who proposed South Africa's application to be readmitted as a full member of the ICC, is likely to be the first country to be invited to South Africa for a Test match, possibly in Johannesburg before the World Cup.

It goes without saying that Australia, where the cricketing emblem might as well be a dollar sign, hankered after South Africa's presence. Their administration, along with that of New Zealand, was even prepared to redraft the cup itinerary, with all the problems that would have entailed.

How much opposition to this notion was voiced yes-



Cowdrey: responsibility

terday is unclear, but what has transpired is that Colin Cowdrey, chairman of the ICC, made the matter his personal responsibility. Having pointed out that no application had been made by South Africa to play in the World Cup, Cowdrey said: "If they did apply, I would have to use my chairman's prerogative and tell them no."

Limit imposed on bouncers in Tests

CRICKET'S old chestnuts were attacked with a new vigour by the International Cricket Council (ICC) yesterday, though some of the legislation introduced against the bowling of bouncers and beaters might be thought needlessly intricate (Alan Lee writes).

From October, bowlers in international cricket will technically be restricted to one bouncer per over at each batsman. A second or third such delivery will be called a no-ball and a fourth will be

the bowler removed for the remainder of the innings.

This is a sensible concession towards those English administrators included, who wanted a strict limit of one per over, which was likely to pamper the batsman. It is, however, unlikely to please West Indies, although it is not, in itself, a bar to intimidation.

An unscrupulous bowler may cheerfully concede two runs in an over for the benefit of unsettling a batsman and the onus, as ever, will remain firmly in the hands of umpires, who, until now, have lacked uniformity.

The bowling of fast full-tosses, or beaters, is already outlawed, but that has not stopped the suspicion that they are sometimes bowled deliberately.

Yesterday's decision that they must now be no-balled was routine enough, but the classification of "above shoulder height" has surely not been thought through. It may only be the head-high beamer which can kill, but at chest-height the batsman is obliged

to try to play the ball and likely to have a hand, or ribs broken.

Although umpires will still adjudicate on the field, all international cricket is now to be overseen by an independent referee. In most cases the referee will be a former player, whose costs are met by the host country, and he will be able to punish players for dissent and intimidation, as well as applying what the ICC insists will be "deliberately harsh" fines for teams falling beneath 15 overs per hour.

Sussex fail to take advantage of superb pitch

Work of Gooch and Hussain eases Essex task

By JACK BAILEY

HOVE (Sussex won toss): Essex beat Sussex by four wickets

STARTLINGLY good work in the field, followed by a partnership worth 142 from 29 overs between Graham Gooch and Nasser Hussain, formed the cornerstone of an impressive Essex victory.

They earned their place in the NatWest Trophy quarter-finals by overhauling Sussex's 254 for eight wickets with two overs to spare, although but not without some recourse to mild panic among the lower order on the batting list as they shed three wickets, including those of Gooch and Hussain, for 26 runs before Foster and Garnham finally saw them home.

Both Gooch and Hussain were within a breath of their centuries when Father Time called. Freddie Titmus decided on Gooch for the man of the match award as much, as he said, for the part he played as captain as for an innings spanning 146 balls; a considerably longer period than that taken by Hussain whose square driving and cutting were quite formidable.

That Essex were not chasing a larger target owed much to their excellent fielding and catching in support of Gooch's nicely shuffled attack. At 177 for two with 15 overs remaining and with Alan Wells and Speight comfortably in command, Sussex appeared to have justified their choice of batting first. They were also

on course for a total which, even on this batsman's wicket, would stretch Essex to the utmost limit of their resources.

By then, Smith's crisp, clean driving had brought him 50 out of the first 74 runs scored and, eventually, 62 for 86 balls. He lost Lenham, very much the junior partner in an opening stand of 76, to the first of several fine pieces of Essex out-cricket. Such tempted Lenham who went for the big one, high over midwicket, only to see Prichard, the ground sloping away as he ran full tilt, pull the ball down just inside the boundary.

Such had bowled well and deserved this success. But even after Smith had been well taken at midwicket, so enterprising were Speight and Wells that their 80 runs off 17 overs seemed merely a foretaste. It was now that the Essex fielding came into its own. Wells was neatly taken at short mid-on; Speight brilliantly run out by Hussain hitting the one stump visible from point. With Essex hanging on to everything — Hussain again featured large when taking a blinding catch in the gully to dismiss Moore — Sussex found themselves at least 30 runs short of expectation.

For a time, there was a slim chance that the 255 runs left to Essex would be enough. Jones, a three-year contract recently signed, roared in, mixing wide balls with disconcertingly

good ones. He beat Stephenson all ends up with a beauty which hit middle and off, had Prichard well-caught behind the wicket, and caused even the imperious Gooch to hurry his stroke.

Shortly before tea, Malik went to Colin Wells who, like Dodemaide, plugged away steadily from the sea end. But Gooch could not be shaken and the rediscovered form of Hussain was quickly in evidence. Once settled in, he more than matched his captain stroke for stroke.

SUSSEX	Runs
N J Lenham c Prichard b Smith	18
D J Smith c Smith b Tooley	22
M P Speight run out	46
A P Wells c Smith b Foster	40
P W G Foster c and b Pringle	17
C M Wells c Smith b Pringle	11
A J C Dodemaide not out	27
M J Meadows c Hussain b Tooley	4
A C S Pigott b Tooley	4
I D K Salisbury not out	14
Essex (8-3, 11, 10-1)	12
Total (8 wickets, 60 overs)	254
A N Jones did not bat	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-27, 3-177, 4-183, 5-204, 6-213, 7-224, 8-224.	
SCORING: Jones 7-0-46-2; Dodemaide 11-0-20-0; Tooley 11-0-40-1; C M Wells 9-0-31-1; Salisbury 12-0-40-1; Pringle 12-0-35-1.	
Man of the match: G A Gooch.	
Umpires: G J Conant and P B Wright.	

ESSEX	Runs
G A Gooch c Dodemaide b Lenham	85
P J Speight c Jones	0
P J Prichard c Meadows b Jones	0
Salim Malik b C M Wells	2
N J Hussain c Smith b Pigott	23
D R Pringle b Salisbury	2
M A Foster not out	10
N A Foster not out	10
Essex (8-3, 11, 10-1)	12
Total (8 wickets, 58 overs)	255
N Shaid, T D Tooley and P M Smith did not bat	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-27, 3-70, 4-212, 5-219, 6-228.	
SCORING: Jones 7-0-46-2; Dodemaide 11-0-20-0; Tooley 11-0-40-1; C M Wells 9-0-31-1; Salisbury 12-0-40-1; Pringle 12-0-35-1.	
Man of the match: G A Gooch.	
Umpires: G J Conant and P B Wright.	

Rain frustrates holders

By IVO TENNANT

SOUTHAMPTON (Hampshire won toss): Hampshire, with eight wickets in hand, need 111 runs to beat Lancashire

THIS is about as finely balanced a one-day match as could be. When the threatened rain materialised, Hampshire had 22 overs remaining in which to make 111 to beat the NatWest Trophy holders. They have eight wickets remaining, among them Robin Smith and David Gower, whose very future could depend on what happens today.

If Hampshire do reach the quarter-finals, they will be indebted to Chris Smith, as indeed they have been all season. It is hard to comprehend why he wants to give up cricket in England when he has made 2,089 runs already this summer, and still harder upon hearing that he may be leaving Hampshire before the end of the season. Marketing in Australia can never have been so attractive.

Smith was as watchful and as clinical as ever, making 66 off 92 balls with 10 fours. All were propelled rather than persuaded to the boundary, including three in an over when Watkinson came on. With Terry he put on 89 in 23 overs against an attack which, for all the Test caps they

muster, was distinctly lacking in variety on a slowish pitch. "Both openers went to catches at the wicket off the change bowlers. There were runs, too, for Robin Smith, even if he was short of his most formidable. Gower, in his brief stay, middled almost everything.

Lancashire, of course, were keen to finish this yesterday, for they have the Benson and Hedges Cup final tomorrow, and enough cricket besides to keep any team going. Yet after tea mizzling rain turned to something more heavy.

Hampshire had given Lancashire first innings, preferring to chase rather than set a target. In this they took a chance, and not just because the pitch was a sound one. They knew they would have to face Wasim in the early evening and as it transpired the light became very murky.

When Mendis and Fowler began with 111 in 28 overs, Lancashire must have reckoned they were well on the way to winning. Even without Atherton, whose stomach

with a total which was perhaps 30 runs short of expectations. Maru was given a rare limited-over match and gave away very little. The same was true of Udai, who dismissed both openers and Watkinson as well.

There was one dismissal which initially upset the small Lancastrian element in the crowd. Wasim was starting to put bat to ball when he loathed Ayling to long-on. Connor held the catch, but in so doing crashed into a boundary board. Law 32, though, accorded with the umpire's decision.

LANCASHIRE	Runs
G D Mendis bow to Udai	30
G D Fowler b Udai	71
G D Smith c Jones	24
N J Fairbrother c Udai b Connor	24
M J Watkinson c Ayling b Udai	7
W Ayling c Connor b Udai	11
P J Duffell c Terry b Connor	11
T W K Heggie not out	7
I G Austin c Maru b Ayling	1
D P Hughes not out	2
P W Ayling c Ayling b Connor	2
Essex (8-3, 11, 10-1)	12
Total (8 wickets, 58 overs)	255
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-128, 3-150, 4-182, 5-225, 6-232, 7-247, 8-254, 9-258.	
SCORING: Ayling 12-0-35-1; Connor 11-0-40-1; Maru 12-0-37-0; Ayling 12-0-37-1; Udai 12-0-47-3.	

HAMPSHIRE	Runs
V P Terry c Heggie b Watkinson	47
G D Smith c Maru b Wasim	66
R Smith not out	5
G D Gower not out	10
Essex (8-3, 11, 10-1)	12
Total (8 wickets, 38 overs)	151
Terry 12-0-35-1; Ayling 12-0-37-0; Maru 12-0-37-0; Udai 12-0-47-3.	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-47, 2-132.	
Umpires: S Henson and D R Shepherd.	



Family man: Mansell and his son, Leo, face the media at Silverstone yesterday

Mansell stays shy behind his moustache

NIGEL Mansell absolutely baffles me. I simply cannot get my head around the thumpingly obvious contradiction that the man embodies. He is one of the most courageous and audacious men in sport. But how can you reconcile this unquestioned fact with the public face of the man? How can a man who drives like that come across as so, well, dull?

Last year he retired forever at Silverstone: now the Formula One circus is back at Silverstone again, and Mansell is as much a part of it as ever. The British grand prix is very much his race: the one that he wants to win above all. His self-image as national hero makes victory an essential.

So naturally, he greeted the occasion with a press conference: he is the hot driver in the hot car, and obvious favourite to win. And so he gave the press a shoal of such stuffily anodyne non-remarks that even hardened veterans of the genre were willing.

Who is this person with the Velcro-strip moustache who answers Nigel Mansell's questions so uninspiringly? Surely it cannot be the same person that drove Nigel Mansell's car in that inspirational fashion. To overtake Alain Prost once looks like talent: to do so twice looks almost like genius. Last weekend in France gave us Mansell in all his glory.

Mansell is clearly an exceptional man, but there is no spark of anything at all out of the ordinary when he appears before his public. How does he manage that? He told us that Silverstone is the most magnificent grand prix circuit in the world today. He said there is no

truth in the rumours of a rift between himself and his team colleague, Riccardo Patrese. "I just hold my hands up to congratulate him on what he's done."

Rather less plausibly, he said that if Ayrton Senna nicked his job with the Williams team, "I'd put him on the back. I'd have no problems. If he got the money people say he has been asking for, then good luck to him."

Formula One is a rumour factory that has no equal in sport. The movement of drivers from team to team is as eye-baffling as their speed around the track. Senna for Williams? Mansell to shift into Indy car racing? Mansell to join a team as manager. But he denied everything.

"Do you find all this talk of Senna odd?" Mansell laughed, and actually said something worth saying: "I find nothing in Formula One odd whatsoever. I've been through so much, I now pay very little attention."

Formula One is an unreal world full of outsize characters. It is just that Mansell doesn't seem to be one himself. He doesn't have Senna's intensity, Prost's grasp, Piquet's devil-may-care qualities. The exceptional qualities that Mansell undoubtedly has are invisible, expressed only in a motor car. And he can drive. Some people have good faces for radio. Perhaps Mansell comes over better in a foreign language. The Italians loved him, and called him *il leone*. In English, we are fixed by the way that so extraordinary a man seems so depressingly ordinary.

Arsenal in a Viennese tangle

From DAVID MILLER
IN GENOVA

THE draw for the European club football competitions here yesterday gave England — back to near-normality with four entries, following six years of ostracism — some supposedly easy opponents but some complicated administration.

Arsenal, the champions, are at home to Austria Vienna in the Champions Cup; Manchester United, the holders, and Tottenham Hotspur — the latter in a preliminary round — are both away in the first leg of the Cup Winners' Cup, respectively, PAE Athinaikos and Sparta Skotterau, of Austria; Liverpool are at home to Kuusysi, of Finland, in the Uefa Cup.

Most of the complication, needless to say, is to do with the making of money and accommodation of television: to witness the furrowed brows here, you could be led momentarily to think football was doing the clubs a disservice. Television does provide a valuable service, but there are moments when it appears to matter more than the game.

Arsenal had last night still not been able to reach agree-

ment with Vienna on rescheduling the first leg match from September 18 to September 17, a Tuesday, so as to avoid a live television clash with Liverpool.

Being as smart as ever, Liverpool has negotiated an exclusive European season's contract with BBC, giving them a £4m guarantee and £1.5m if they reach the final. Peter Robinson, the Liverpool's chief executive, was able to go home smiling. Liverpool are glad of moderate first round opponents.

Their exclusion since the Heysel disaster of 1985 has lost them, given average success, approaching £6m.

Independent Television have done a deal with the other three clubs, and do not fancy a live screen head-to-head between Arsenal and Liverpool. But Vienna, for the moment, refuse to consider a switch to Tuesday. "There will be further negotiations," David Dein Arsenal's vice-chairman, said before leaving. Tottenham's problems, being unseeded, involved the

accommodation of an extra preliminary round, which they had not been expecting. They will have to play Stockerau on August 21 and September 4, the dates of their scheduled first two midweek League matches, at home to Crystal Palace and Liverpool.

After only two weeks of the League programme, therefore, they will be two matches behind the rest, though Tony Berry, a director of this troubled club, admitted they would rather have such problems than have lost to Nottingham Forest at Wembley. If Tottenham win, they will then face Hajduk of Split on September 18 in which case they would hope that that the military tension between the Croatian capital and Serbian Belgrade has eased.

Manchester United, having made over £2m from winning the Cup Winners' Cup, in which they beat Barcelona in the final, face an unknown quantity in Athinaikos. The first match will be switched from Athens to the 70,000 stadium available in Athens.

Rangers, the Scottish champions, have an uncomfortable tie against Sparta of Prague, while Red Star Belgrade, the holders, have an easy outing against Partadown.

S Africa evades decision

JOHAN du Plessis, secretary general of the South African national Olympic committee, said yesterday that there was no guarantee that South Africa would send a team to the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona.

Du Plessis said that his country's participation would depend on the political situation and on whether athletes from all sports, not just the larger ones such as track and field, could go. "It will serve no purpose by merely sending the establishment sports to the Games and not the rest," du Plessis added.

The Zimbabwean government announced yesterday that it would maintain its ban on sporting links with South Africa despite its readmission to the International Olympic Committee on Tuesday.

The sports minister, David Kwidini, said Zimbabwe would be guided in its attitude to the sports boycott by the Organisation of African Unity, the United Nations commission against apartheid in sport and the Commonwealth.
